

D6/24/19 USS Lead/East Chicago-Calumet Lives Matter and Calumet Strategy Group-Meeting

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Morgan Collier	8/22/19	
Reviewed by: Roopa Mulchandani	9/3/19	[x]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.) [ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a blue colored font</b> . [ ]: All comments have been resolved.
Edited by:		

**Purpose:** For each in-depth site review, talk to impacted communities to determine if people understood the risks and could act based on EPA's communications; identify any opportunities for EPA to improve its risk communication. [Link:](#) INDEX

*Project Guide Step # : 44b, 45*

**Source(s):**

***Meeting/Interview Information:***

<b>Date &amp; Time/Duration</b>	<b>Meeting Location</b>	<b>Invitation, Agenda, Questions (If applicable)</b>
6/24/19 5:30-7:30 pm	East Chicago Library-Robert A. Pastrick branch 1008 W. Chicago Ave. East Chicago, IN 46312	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 1-Sign In Sheet for CLM and CSG.pdf <a href="#">Link:</a> Source 2-USS Lead-East Chicago Itinerary.pdf

<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Organization</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
1	Morgan Collier	EPA OIG Program Analyst	Collier.morgan@epa.gov
2	Rev. Cheryl Rivera	Co-lead Organizer of the Community Strategy Group	(b) (6)
3	Thomas Frank	Community Strategy Group	
4	Sherry Hunter	Calumet Lives Matter	
5	Allison Krenzien	EPA OIG Program Analyst	Krenzien.allison@epa.gov

6	Jeffrey Lagda	Congressional/Media Liaison	Lagda.jeffrey@epa.gov
7	Tina Lovingood	Director, EPA OIG LCWM	Lovingood.tina@epa.gov
8	Jill Trynosky	Project Manager, OIG LCWM	Trynosky.jill@epa.gov

**Scope:**

Interview was conducted on June 24, 2019 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and limited to discussion during that time period.

**Conclusion(s):**

**Areas of Concern:**

- Confusion on how and why the West Calumet Housing development was torn down (See Details 1, 14).
- Felt that data was held back and that EPA did not tell the community about the contamination (See Details 3a-3c, 7, 8, 13).
- There is mixed messaging coming from EPA pamphlets and from EPA on water sampling data (See Details 4, 25a-25d).
- Felt that environmental injustice was placed on this community (See Details 9, 12, 23).
- Community seems to know about the contaminants but not the risks associated with them (See Details 11, 14).
- People were still being moved into the housing area after the news broke (See Details 17).
- There's a lack of trust (See Details 18, 32c).
- There is confusion about what is being done in the Zone 1 cleanup (See Details 20a-20c).
- EPA needs to listen and take the community seriously (See Details 31a-31c, 32a).
- There are many groups involved at the site and this is confusing to the community (See Details 32b).
- Blood testing in 2011 was conducted, but the impact of the results was not shared and health risks were not talked about until 2016 (See Details 36a).

**Positive Feedback Received:**

- They are very happy with the CIC's (Janet and Charles) work at the site (See Details 29a-29c).

**Details:**

**Jeff led the meeting. It was a conversational interview, where formal questions were not used.**

1. Discussed demolition of the housing unit, and how that was handled

- a. Felt it was torn down because the Mayor said so.
  - b. Felt EPA did not fragment the community into Zone 1/2/3
2. They feel that land-use is driving the cleanup work at the site.
3. In 2016-high lead levels were found in West Calumet; they did testing in 2014 and held information/data until 2016 when the crisis hit.
  - a. Michael Burgoff was the PM—he confirmed the data. Tom had called him. They immediately took Mike off the project
  - b. Sherry had heard about this from Tom because it was leaked from EPA and they did not want it to spread; Tom told people before EPA did
  - c. Disconcerting; the CLM brought a suit for the ROD based on improper communication and lost the case
4. 2007 was before the site was designated as a superfund site
5. Pamphlets were handed out and they felt there was mixed messaging
6. In 2009, it was listed as a superfund site.
7. They felt that it took 7 years before testing of West Calumet, and 97% of the land was contaminated
8. Phase 1 of the study would have shown that people should be living here.
9. They feel this is an environmental injustice examples; wouldn't have happened elsewhere.
10. According to the interviewees there were two white women [from EPA] at a festival and no one visited them. They isolated themselves and it was hard to reach them.
11. They felt that the community knew they had lead they did not know about the risk and didn't understand the harm. [Link: INDEX](#)
12. They felt that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) does not recognize EJ.
13. Mike had made it clear that there was no risk, and they had cleaned up 13 homes
14. At the first meeting at the MLK Center, August 2016, the interviewees felt that the risks weren't harmful and they remember hearing that they didn't have to tear down the housing complex and that they could remediate it. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - a. They were alarmed when people were told they had to move.
  - b. According to the interviewees, it was a large, historically black and largest low income neighborhood with children and seniors living there for 40 years.
  - c. The news came from the paper.
  - d. There was no plan in place for where families were to be relocated to.
  - e. There was a section 8 vouchers for living somewhere else.
15. They felt that there were interagency fights on who was doing what with the lead.
16. The community provided the water bottles to the community.
17. People were still being located into the contaminated neighborhood even after the newspaper news broke
18. There is still a lack of trust because of this miscommunication related to water, cleanup, and homes. [Link: INDEX](#)
19. CDC-registry but would not initiate. There is a lack of accountability, need to set up benchmarks

20. Questions on how the zone 1 cleanup is being cleaned, is it to residential standards?
  - a. EPA only goes to 2 feet, based on the ROD.
  - b. The top looks nice but what about underneath of that?
  - c. The Mayor says he wants it cleaned to residential standards in Zone 1, but that EPA won't, who is deciding this? They would like clarity on this.
21. Repopulation of the neighborhood is a major concern.
  - a. 80% of East Chicago is industrial, and 17% of the Zone is residential.
  - b. The neighborhood is cut off by industry (this is a systematic problem)
22. Fought to have governor declare a state of emergency (Feb 9, 2017)
  - a. Obligatory \$ moving forward to Calumet, which was the hardest hit.
  - b. The mayor diverted the \$ to North Harbor and not Calumet; and they had a hard time getting meetings.
23. They feel that a structure of oppression is continuing here.
24. They asked the OIG what our objective of our visit is?
  - a. We can provide recommendations to EPA on improvements they can make in their communication.
25. They feel that there has been miscommunication in regards to the testing around water, and this has been disappointing.
  - a. For lead in soil, Miguel tested and there was 90% contamination-system-wide issue.
  - b. The City/State objected Miguel/EPA and froze out Miguel. He was no longer at public meetings, and meetings were canceled.
  - c. State did not take public health issue at first communication in reported findings.
  - d. This was confusing and seemed like they were washing (it is what it is); not going to challenge what is going on
26. The water filters came from an outside source.
  - a. State objected to testing
  - b. They trusted Miguel
  - c. No level of lead in water is acceptable
  - d. Triggered \$3 million to replace
27. CLM requested testing, and got independent testing done by a hygienist
  - a. Did an intake throughout the city, outside of the Superfund area and tested for other contaminants
  - b. Had a press conference with the data
28. They said they aren't Flint, there are older pipes with high levels.
29. The CIC's have good interactions with community; they provide everyone with filters
  - a. Charles wanted to help; they had an instance where the CLM (Sherry) was locked out of a meeting with the governor
  - b. Their opinion is that the Mayor infiltrated the list so that the meeting "went smoothly", so they determined who got to speak/attend the meeting
  - c. Sherry-happy with Janet Pope and Charles
30. Pruitt promised to look at property value.
31. EPA needs to listen and take the community seriously



- a. People have to live here
  - b. Treat it like just like another dump site
  - c. “Why ask if you’re not going to do anything”
32. There’s many entities involved at the site: Interest groups, PRP, city, community, real estate, industrial developers
- a. The community voice is the weakest and the PRP has the loudest
  - b. There are many agencies involved (HUD, Mayor, EPA) and this is confusing
  - c. Residents are distrusting of EPA
33. There’s a masked relationship with the PRP’s
- a. They want a full cleanup
34. They have not looked at Zone 1 in 2 years
35. Some universities have come in to communicate; IUN-Purdue Lafayette
36. There was blood testing done and an impact study in 2011 to minimize effects; however they did not indicate the levels of impact
- a. Health effects were first discussed in 2016/2017
37. There was some conflict between CAG groups and EPA had to deal with this; they brought in a facilitator named Michael

Name	Title	Contact Information
Morgan Collier	Program Analyst	collier.morgan@epa.gov
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Thomas Frank	COMMUNITY STRATEGY GEN	(b) (6)
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Jill Tynosky	Proj. Manager, OIG LCWM	tynosky.jill@epa.gov

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

**PLAN**

**EPA OIG Risk Communication Site Visit/USS Lead Site in East Chicago, IN**

**Site Visit Dress Code:** long pants, shirts with sleeves (shoulders need to be covered), closed toed shoes (tennis shoes are fine). In addition, a hard hat and safety vest will be provided by the RPM.

**Meeting Dress Code:** Business Casual

**DAY 1 – Monday, June 24**

*Travel day*

**9 AM:** Jason and Jeff arrive at MDW airport, Jeff has a rental car with Hertz Car Rental

**9 AM:** Tina arrives at ORD airport, has a rental car with Sixt Car Rental

**10 AM:** Allison has a rental car and will meet with Morgan with Advantage Rent a Car

**11 AM:** Morgan and Allison will go to the Region 5 office to review site information; 6<sup>th</sup> floor room reserved (9-4 PM)-receptionist will check them in.

**12 PM:** Jill arrives at airport

**Hotel Check-in:** Courtyard Chicago Southwest/Hammond, IN 7730 Corinne Dr Hammond, Indiana, 46323 US (219) 845-6350

**4:30-5:00 PM:** Prep-meeting- Meet at the Circulation Desk at East Chicago Public Library, 1008 W Chicago Ave, East Chicago (the study room has been reserved for the OIG)

**5:30 PM:** Calumet Lives Matter and Calumet Strategy Group Meeting-East Chicago Library- Robert A. Pastrick Branch 1008 W. Chicago Ave. East Chicago, IN 46312

**Team Roles: Jeff (Introduction), Jill (Lead/Facilitate as needed), Morgan (write-up)**

**DAY 2 – Tuesday, June 25**

*\*Need to find time to stop into East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy to view listening session location in advance, if possible.*

**9 AM:** East Chicago Calumet Coalition Community Advisory Group (C.A.G)- East Chicago Library- Robert A. Pastrick Branch 1008 W. Chicago Ave. East Chicago, IN 46312

**Team Roles: TBD**

**10 AM:** Charles arrives at ORD airport

**11 AM:** Meeting with Mayor Copeland-4525 Indianapolis Blvd. East Chicago, IN 46312 (Mayor's Office)

**Team Roles: TBD, Allison (write-up)**

**2 PM:** Site visit with RPM Sarah Rolfes and CIC Janet Pope. Meet at the Carrie Gosch Elementary School- 455 E 148th St, East Chicago, IN 46312 (parking is available here).

**Team Roles:** Morgan introduction. Allison create workpaper with observations, collect any OIG team member observations and documents to add to workpaper.

**DAY 3 – Wednesday, June 26**

**Before 12 PM:** Open for meetings, if needed.

**3 PM:** Meal break (if needed)

**4:30 PM:** Arrive at school for set-up

**6-8 PM:** Listening session at the East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy (ECUEA)- 1402 E Chicago Ave, East Chicago, IN 46312

**Team Roles:** TBD

Participants include: Tina, Jill, Morgan, Allison, Jeff, Jason, Charles (Spanish), Julie

Equipment/Materials: Sound system: Jason/Jeff, Projector: Tina/Morgan, Surveys/Address Handout: Morgan, Survey Box and Timing Cards: Jill

**DAY 4 – Thursday, June 27**

**8 AM:** Flight Departures Begin (*see below*)

**2-3 PM:** Teleconference with Doug Petroff (IDEM)-*Risk Communication Team*

**Team Roles:** Morgan (Lead) and Seth (Write-up)

**EPA OIG PERSONNEL**

NAME	Cell Phone Number (s)
Tina Lovingood, Director of Land	Personal (b) (6); Gov't (b) (6)
Jill Trynosky, Project Manager	Personal (b) (6); Gov't (b) (6)
Morgan Collier, Program Analyst	Personal (b) (6)
Allison Krenzien, Program Analyst	Personal (b) (6)
Charles Brunton, Program Analyst	Personal (b) (6)
Julie Narimatsu, Program Analyst	Personal (b) (6)
Jason Elkins, Public Affairs Multimedia Lead	Personal (b) (6); Gov't (b) (6) (primary contact method); <a href="mailto:Elkins.jason@epa.gov">Elkins.jason@epa.gov</a>
Darryl Mason, Admin/Support	202-566-0871; <a href="mailto:mason.darryl@epa.gov">mason.darryl@epa.gov</a>
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Jeff Lagda, OCPL (Congressional and Media Liaison)	Personal (b) (6), Gov't (b) (6) <a href="mailto:Lagda.Jeffrey@epa.gov">Lagda.Jeffrey@epa.gov</a>

### OTHER CONTACTS

NAME	Contact Information
Sarah Rolfes (RPM)	(b) (6); <a href="mailto:Rolfes.Sarah@epa.gov">Rolfes.Sarah@epa.gov</a>
Janet Pope (CIC)	(b) (6); <a href="mailto:Pope.Janet@epa.gov">Pope.Janet@epa.gov</a>
USS Lead Hotline Number	(b) (6)
Maritza Lopez (East Chicago/Calumet Coalition)	
Sherri Hunter (Calumet Lives Matter)	
Rev. Cheryl Rivera (Community Strategy Group)	
Irene Vera (Office of the Mayor)	
Veronica Eskew (POC for East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy)	

### FLIGHT INFORMATION

NAME	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
<b>Morgan Collier</b>	Monday-dep. DCA @ 8:45 AM, arr. ORD @ 9:52 AM	Thursday- dep ORD @ 9:00 AM, arr. DCA @ 11:59 AM
<b>Allison Krenzien</b>	Friday- dep. DEN @ 9:21 AM, arr. ORD @ 1:04 PM	Thursday- dep. ORD @ 9:52 AM, arr. DEN @ 11:33 AM
<b>Jill Trynosky</b>	Monday – depart DCA @ 10:45 AM, arrive ORD 11:48 AM	Thursday – depart ORD @ 9:00 AM, arrive DCA @ 11:59 AM
<b>Jason Elkins and Jeff Lagda</b>	Monday-dep. DCA @ 8:00 AM, arr. MDW @ 8:50 AM	Thursday-dep. MDW @ 8:50 AM, arr. DCA @ 11:40 AM
<b>Tina Lovingood</b>	Monday-dep. DCA @ 7:45 AM, arr. ORD @ 8:50 AM	Thursday-dep. ORD @ 8:00 AM, arr. DCA @ 10:59 AM
<b>Charles Brunton</b>	Tuesday-dep. DCA @ 9:45 AM, arr. ORD @ 10:48 AM	Thursday-dep. ORD @ 12:50 PM, arr. DCA @ 3:52 PM

### HOTEL

Courtyard Chicago Southwest/Hammond, IN 7730 Corinne Dr Hammond, Indiana, 46323 US  
(219) 845-6350

### **EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

<b>NEAREST HOSPITAL / TRAUMA CENTER</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>EMERGENCY ROOM TELEPHONE #</b>
<b>St. Catherine Hospital</b>	4321 Fir St, East Chicago, IN 46312	(219) 392-1700

<b>DEPARTMENTS</b>		<b>TELEPHONE</b>
<b>POLICE</b>	<b>East Chicago Police Department</b> 2301 E Columbus Dr, East Chicago, IN 46312	911
<b>FIRE</b>	<b>East Chicago Fire Department Station 4</b> 4823 Kennedy Ave, East Chicago, IN 46312	911

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- [Project Notification Memo](#)
- [USS Lead Site Webpage](#)
- [Media Advisory](#)
- Site documents shared by R5 via a secure OneDrive link; Some documents will be reviewed at the R5 office during the trip.
- Site Map – attached to Prep Session invite

6/25/19 USS Lead/East Chicago- Meeting

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Morgan Collier	8/26/19	The documentation of the people speaking is too vague. Need to state who said what.
Comments: Bakari Baker	2/25/20	Also, need to state who “they” are throughout this WP.
	3/5/20	Still need to identify who “they” are throughout the WP.
Reviewed by:		[X]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.) [ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a blue colored font</b> . [ ]: All comments have been resolved.
Edited by: Morgan Collier	3/3/20	Addressed comments.

**Purpose:** For each in-depth site review, talk to impacted communities to determine if people understood the risks and could act based on EPA’s communications; identify any opportunities for EPA to improve its risk communication.

**Project Guide Step # :** 44b, 45

**Source(s):**

**Meeting/Interview Information:**

<u>Date &amp; Time/Duration</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Invitation, Agenda, Questions (If applicable)</u>
6/25/19 9:00-11:00 AM	East Chicago Library-Robert A. Patrick branch 1008 W. Chicago Ave. East Chicago, IN 46312	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 1-Sign in Sheet for the East Chicago Calumet Coalition CAG.pdf  <a href="#">Link:</a> Source 2-USS Lead-East Chicago Itinerary.pdf

<u>#</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Organization</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
1	Morgan Collier	EPA OIG Program Analyst	Collier.morgan@epa.gov
2	Allison Krenzien	EPA OIG Program Analyst	Krenzien.allison@epa.gov
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4	Jill Trynosky	Project Manager, OIG LCWM	Trynosky.jill@epa.gov
5	Tara Adams	CAG	(b) (6)
6	Lori Locklear	CAG	
7	Megan Delurey	University of Chicago Abrams Environmental Clinic	
8	Mark Templeton	University of Chicago Abrams Environmental Clinic	
9	Debbie Chizenee	NU Law Environmental Clinic	
10	Nancy Loeb	NU Law Environmental Clinic	
11	Martiza Lopez	East Chicago Calumet Coalition (Community Advisory Group (CAG)-Chair person))	
12	Devin Crymes	CAG	
13	Ellen Wells	Assistant Professor, Purdue University	
14	AlLeeshea Daniels	CAG	

**Scope:**

Interview was conducted on June 25, 2019 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and limited to discussion during that time period.

**Conclusion(s):**

**Areas of Concern:**

- Concerns the community were not told if they could/when they could form a CAG (See Details 6a-d).
- Members of the community group felt EPA knew for decades, that risk was downplayed at meetings in 2009 2012, and 2016 (See Details 7A,7F). (b) (5)
- OU1 was split into 3 zones and there was no plan in place, and this division ended up dividing the community (See Details 7H,8).
- EPA sampling that took place in November 2014, took EPA 18 months (July 2016) to notify residents about the results (See Details 9). (b) (5) ?
- July 2016 is when the Mayor spoke to the community about the issues. People didn't know about anything until the Mayor said something in July 2016 (See Details 10-10b. Additional supportive information in WP-PSSC 30h). (b) (5)

- Yard signs were placed in Zone 1, but not in Zone 2/3 (See Details 10A). (b) (5)
- The “Zone 1 Amended Remedy Proposed Plan” published in November 2018 seemed flawed to residents (See Details 13). (b) (5)
- Members of the community group felt that meetings lacked transparency (See Details 14) (b) (5)
- Members of the community group felt that the results were high in 2014-2015, and they don’t understand why information wasn’t shared with the public. Both renters and property owners didn’t know how serious the problem was (See Details 15A-H, 18E).
- Members of the community group felt that hotspots are being missed, and they don’t understand why some yards are getting cleaned (See Details 19A-E).
- Residents didn’t know their yard was sampled until 2015-2016, and heard about re-sampling but didn’t see the results (See Details 20A). (b) (5) - EPA/EPA contractors, information came from community members and no specifics were provided on which Zone they lived in at the time)
- For the basement seepage, the residents didn’t feel EPA knew how to explain it, and EPA did not discuss the risks or advise them on anything (See Details 22A, 25C).
- A resident had concerns that empty lots are being cleaned before residential lots (See Details 23A-C). (b) (5)
- They felt blood testing wasn’t made convenient, they don’t trust what the city says (See Details 27A/C).
- Felt EPA should have warned them back then, and children were harmed (See Details 27D/E).
- They feel there is no screening or available information on arsenic (See Details 27J).
- There are multiple illness/cancers in the area and people think it is because of the site (See Details 28A-H).
- There were concerns about the quality of soil being used in remediation (See Details 30A-D).
- Confusion on how indoor lead testing is occurring and the information received has not been made clear, for instance, some data is expressed as loading values (See Details 31A, 32A-F).
- They would like to have paperwork written in layman’s terms, as sometimes it can be too technical (See Details 33C, 39).
- They want to be invited to the table and be heard. They do not feel respected. (See Details 33J/K).
- They feel that clinicians don’t know about the effects and that no one communicates with health (See Details 33M).
- Combined effects from contaminants are not discussed (See Details 36).
- At the Zone 1 meeting, EPA kept changing the plan during the meeting (See Details 40A).
- EPA does not have a system of tracking of who is coming in and out (See Details 47C). (b) (5)
- There’s a lack of urgency by EPA (See Details 47G). (b) (5) (?)
- Some members of the community group feel that they receive information because they are active (See Details 47D). (b) (5)

- They feel EPA needs to go door-to-door engagement (See Details 48E).

**Positive Feedback Received:**

- The panel style meetings EPA had were helpful (See Details 48A).
- They feel that the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, Janet Pope, and the EPA On-Scene Coordinator, Jacob Hassan, have done a really good job at the site (See Details 44). (b) (5)
- The new site webpage looks good now after improvements were made (See Details 45).

**Details:**

1. Interviewees went around and introduced themselves:
  - a. AlLeeshea is a resident, Ellen is a professor in epidemiology, Devin is a zone 2 resident, Martiza is a resident of zone 3, chair of the CAG, Mark is a lawyer, Meghan is a student, Lori is a resident of zone 2 and a board member of the CAG, Tara is a CAG member and a former community member, on the phone is Mia who is a undergraduate student at Northwestern, Nancy Lowe is the director of the environmental advocacy center.
2. **Allison** gave an overview of who the OIG is and what the objective of our project is.
3. **Question:** What are the other names of the sites we are reviewing?
  - a. **Jill:** We are looking at 4 programs, 2 sites within each program. Superfund Sites: Anaconda, Coakley, East Chicago; RCRA Sites: Amphenol and Bristol Meyers; UST Sites: Tuba City and Timberlake; OEM Sites: CSX Train Derailment and East Chicago.
  - b. **Jill:** USS Lead was the first site chosen for our study.
  - c. **Tina:** This is our fourth out of five sites we are visiting, Anaconda is the last. We researched and got input from EPA on which sites to include in our study.
4. **Question:** What is the expected outcome of the study?
  - a. **Allison:** It is not an assessment, the focus is on the efficacy of communication. The report(s) will list recommendations to the programs.
  - b. **Tina:** Report will be issued in the winter 2019.
  - c. **Allison:** The agency will have to respond to the recommendations and are responsible to Congress.
  - d. There is a semi-annual report that comes out if EPA doesn't implement the recommendations.
5. **Question:** Can the community group receive a copy of the report?
  - a. Yes, it is released to the public and the agencies response is also made public. And the outcomes are also made public.
6. **Maritza:**
  - a. The Community Group issued a FOIA in 2016 because EPA did not send information about CAG.
  - b. As residents they had the right to form a CAG.

- c. When the **community group members** asked the coordinator they said because they weren't remediating the site yet they couldn't form one.
  - d. Felt that there was a failure of communication.
  - e. It had been decades, could go on longer, the **community** need our help.
  - f. There are examples of concerns.
  - g. It is an EJ community.
7. **Debbie:**
- a. EPA knew for decades, since 1985, almost listed it in 91'
  - b. Listed as Superfund in 2009
  - c. No communication or information
  - d. 100 kids in West Calumet, 30% had elevated levels
  - e. Nothing happened in 98'
  - f. In 2009/2012, **EPA** down played risk at meetings
  - g. In 2012, EPA issued a cleanup plan, and that breathing air was not expected to harm people.
  - h. In 2014, **EPA** divided OU1 into zone 3, omitted zone 2, no plan was put forth
8. The division of the community, divided the community.
9. Sampling occurred in November of 2014. And it took 18 months to notify residents (fighting with polluters over data)
- a. 90,000ppt for lead
  - b. Arsenic was high
10. In May 2016, levels were so high that the mayor told them **residents** needed to re-locate
- a. In Zone 1, signs were put up, however no signs were placed in zone 2/3
  - b. People didn't know until the mayor said, EPA gave the mayor the results, not the public
  - c. The site is the property of the city, felt that they (**believe the they here is in reference to the property owners**) could be controlled by city.
11. In 2016, the **community members** felt **EPA** continued to downplay risk.
12. In 2018, a report was produced by the federal health agency.
13. November 2018, a revised plan was released, **the legal consultant for the community group** feel it was flawed and that the presentations were lacking.
14. Three areas of concern: EPA continued to downplay, no safeguards in communication, meetings lacked transparency.
15. **Mark:**
- a. 2014/2015, results were high.
  - b. EPA and PRP arguing about methods.
  - c. 6 months before Mayor.
  - d. Why were residents not told? Delays?
  - e. Get information out early, lesson learned.
  - f. QA/QC mindset.
  - g. There may be a big issue here.
  - h. Evacuated-renters just sitting there not sure what is going on, how serious is it to them? No communication with property owners or renters in two areas.

16. 2016-getting out of West Calumet
  - a. HUD property.
  - b. No communication. Why wasn't everyone told?
  - c. Needs to be about health.
17. **Question**-Did anyone reach out to EPA?
  - a. Went and nothing. Mark Johnson with CDC, back peddling and had to wait.
18. Remediation in zone 3
  - a. Began testing indoors because residents wanted it.
  - b. EPA thought it was just airborne.
  - c. Tested because there was flooding in 2/3.
  - d. In zone 3, they found high levels inside the homes.
  - e. Information was not given to West Calumet new residents, either in the lease, Sect. A or in a statement.
  - f. People didn't know it was a superfund site
19. They believe EPA did composite sampling.
  - a. In their opinion, this was done to reduce sample \$.
  - b. Hotspots can remain uncovered.
  - c. They were alarmed by the sampling method.
  - d. Tim Drexler-possibility of missing hotspots? Neighbor had high levels. EPA could not explain and did not ease the mind of concerned residents. Comment about timing after the consent decree. Before the consent decree there was no communication.
  - e. Concerns that they are diluting samples and missing hotspots→they felt it was to reduce cost of analysis.
20. There was a letter given to residents for sampling the yards.
  - a. They never knew if they sampled until 2015/2016, and they started to hear about re-sampling but never saw the results.
21. Contaminants on the Dupont RCRA site
  - a. They weren't told that their yard was contaminated.
  - b. Dupont has arsenic plumes
22. Basement seepage occurring, they brought this up to EPA
  - a. Response received was "we don't know how to answer that question"
  - b. They haven't explained which site impact which areas
  - c. Confusion on how Dupont impacts the site OU1/OU2
23. Concern brought up that some empty lots were being cleaned up before residential yards.
  - a. **Devin** said at his home his yards # wasn't high enough for cleanup, and that the abandoned lot was getting cleaned up before his. And he was left wondering why doesn't his count?
  - b. He felt that they didn't care about health risks.
  - c. When he asked why they were cleaning up the vacant lot, the response he received was that "someone may play over there".
24. 45 degree angle sidewalks
  - a. Dug down and continued, got to a point where they needed to leave it

25. The basement seepage oozes up from underneath, and dries down into a brown powder.
  - a. Community asked for water sampling.
  - b. EPA visited **Devin's** basement but wouldn't test it, said that they needed the sample to be dried
  - c. They just did a pilot in zone 3, they didn't talk about risk and they didn't not advise on anything, they never heard back on the results.
  - d. There is seepage in zone 3, oil base (black particles), EPA 900ppt, she showed the glass jar and flipped it upside down.
  - e. There's underground rivers.
  - f. Asked EPA to put in monitoring wells, but they don't care.
  - g. They only test homes with outdoor contamination.
26. For vapor intrusion, they asked EPA and they said that they won't address it.
27. Blood lead testing has not been made convenient.
  - a. They don't trust what the city says.
  - b. They had to go to the health department to know, nothing came from EPA. [Link: pjmPSSC Summary WP for National Report.docx](#)
  - c. Tested blood between 09'-16' and just found out about levels.
  - d. EPA should have warned back then, this community member said she would not have moved in 92'.
  - e. Children were harmed, and they don't know about their testing levels.
  - f. Some kids are older now and they are not a focus.
  - g. Don't trust what the public health department says.
  - h. Felt that EPA should have tested; if it's in the water/air.
  - i. Nothing was tested in Zone 1, it was promised by EPA/HUD but nothing was tested before she moved in.
  - j. There is no screening of arsenic and there is little information on arsenic.
- 28. Maritza**
  - a. Contaminants lead, arsenic, and cadmium.
  - b. Postal workers has arsenic in his liver.
  - c. Children at 12 months of age have arthritis.
  - d. She has an EMT background, and she thinks ATSDR knows.
  - e. They feel that the plume is related to the combined effects; they have the highest child mortality rate, she lost teeth at 18, has neurological problems, and had her 3<sup>rd</sup> back surgery.
  - f. They have a high cancer rate.
  - g. She lost her whole family, friends, and neighbors.
  - h. EPA knows and it's not okay, come back and check in 5 years.
29. Excavation could cause lead to blow into homes.
  - a. Raising questions, not getting answered.
  - b. Concern that contaminants have not been explained sufficiently.
  - c. Science-tracking is an issue.
- 30. Lori**
  - a. Remediation: below 400 there's no cleanup, above then there's a cleanup.

- b. Set a time, dug it up, and then brought in new. Over the weekend it rained and then the yard dried up and looked concerning. 6 inches of topsoil as promised. Drexler, said that it was good soil and that it was tested, that's all they can do. This was alarming and concerning to the resident. It was on the EPA website, and she felt they were lying to her saying that it was "good soil because it was tested", did not say it was top soil.
  - c. Sandy Lom-not top soil, this is an ongoing issue of maintenance.
  - d. Drexler said he knew how she felt and that he had a background with EPA. And that there is nothing they can do about the soil.
31. Indoor dust sampling, 960ppt was found, but the front entryway was below so how did that happen?
- a. EPA could not explain this to her.
32. For lead based paint testing, they didn't test the door or the window ledges.
- a. She had lead paint at the entryway.
  - b. EPA said there were no levels of lead paint in the home.
  - c. Had to get a professional company to come in and check.
  - d. She was given a copy of a letter but it was not clear.
  - e. The dust concentration values were expressed in loading value and this was confusing.
  - f. They wrote a letter to EPA, and they could not explain this; they feel lie the EPA is trying to deceive them

### 33. AllLeesha

- a. Mark from ATSDR promised at an EPA meeting to get her son to a clinic to get tested, and nothing happened.
- b. Age with screening, there shouldn't be a limit, they feel there should be life-long testing, and money should be spent on free clinics at Carrie Gosch. Another suggestion was to offer fresh food/open up a garden.
- c. Another suggestion was that residents would like paperwork to be written in layman's terms.
- d. EPA did not explain the numbers; EPA could have said don't take certain things from the contaminated site (ie. Furniture).
- e. They were promised testing, and they should stand on their word.
- f. Comment that there is no diversity at EPA when she visited DC.
- g. People don't understand their journey.
- h. Zone being left out was not okay.
- i. There's a lot of things wrong, homes are not worth anything.
- j. They want to be invited to the table and they want them to hear what they have to say.
- k. They feel expendable and that they aren't being listened to or respected.
- l. Billions are being invested into the city, the city is making money, however they are losing money on property and this is not being disclosed to them. They brought this up to Pruitt, that it wasn't being disclosed that it's on a Superfund Site, however they are still selling and not disclosing



- m. Mark, August 2018, got a new report I was told, not disclosing everything, and asked him about the effects. Said they were looking into it and that it is your responsibility to inform your clinicians. How can they help if they don't know? Said in 2016 that he had meetings at clinics. He also said that there were trainings, and they haven't really done these, no one regularly communicates with health.
  - n. She had dirt under her bath tub with no floor and was consistently exposed.
- 34. The facilitator was biased and took the EPA's view, it was not a good structure and there was no discussion.
- 35. PESHU (Susan Bundana), was disrespectful multiple times, and had a strange way of leading the meetings saying things like "you're fine" and being dismissive at EPA events and funded by EPA.
  - a. Topics were relative compared to absolute. And doesn't answer current community.
  - b. Felt like they weren't taken seriously and felt like they weren't heard.
- 36. Didn't know about effects, EPA only focused on lead and not arsenic or the combined effects.
- 37. No one can tell them why, and human life is important.
- 38. At Calumet Day, EPA sat at their booth while the CAG walked around the park to bring awareness.
- 39. The mailer was barely understandable and contained highly technical language. They feel it should be written at an 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level and in large print. [Link: INDEX](#)
- 40. Transparency lacking
  - a. At a zone 1 meeting, EPA was changing the plan on the fly and it didn't match with the written plan. Then the government shutdown canceled a meeting. Meeting #2 was different from meeting #1.
  - b. It was highly technical and not at a literary level. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - c. They would like someone to talk with instead of receiving postcards.
  - d. The first notification was in 2012 where there was a meeting, in 2014 at Riley Park Michael talked about a SF site, flyer was given out, talked about taking off shows, it was low key and there were no concerns.
  - e. Then in August 2016, there was an open house with flyers; in September 2016 flyers were handed out
- 41. The PRP was never present at SF meetings but were at the Dupont ones; PRP invited but never came.
- 42. Brought up Rafael Gonzalez, who was involved with RCRA, some issue was discussed.
- 43. There have been separate meetings and this has an impact. They feel like people are running around and co-mingling.
- 44. Two staff Janet and Jacob Hassan have been good, everyone else they don't think has been great.
- 45. The new website for USS lead looks good now, the older one wasn't good.
- 46. For redacted materials, there were names cut randomly, why?
- 47. Cross cutting themes brought up:
  - a. Paperwork didn't disclose that homes were on SF land.

- b. No one was told anything.
  - c. No tracking of who's coming in and out.
  - d. Some receive communication because they are active.
  - e. Health risks were downplayed.
  - f. Need the truth.
  - g. Lack of urgency and it is frustrating.
  - h. They don't take the people into consideration and hear their stories.
  - i. They would like to see the RCRA/SF program integrated as the lines is arbitrary to residents.
48. Things the CAG thought should be changed
- a. EPA has used panels in the past at meetings, and the community liked that format. They brought stakeholders together (PRP, City, CAG).
  - b. They should require health ongoing screenings for all impacted with no age limit.
  - c. Disclose that it is a SF site.
  - d. Give residents a seat at the table.
  - e. Have door-to-door engagement and listen; some people are turned off by public meetings
  - f. Mayor can't talk with PRP's.
  - g. Mental health awareness, there is nothing about this on flyers.
  - h. Explanation of health effects from combined contaminant exposure.
  - i. Need to see the basements and work with the PRP's.

# Sign In Sheet

Name	Title	Contact Information
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Maritza Lopez	East Chicago Coalition (Coalition Community Advisory Group (C.C.A.G.) Chairperson	(b) (6)
Dzoin Crumes	C.A.G.	(b) (6)
Ellen Wells	Assistant Prof, Purdue Univ.	(b) (6)
Akeeshah Daniels	C.A.G.	(b) (6)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Morgan Collier	9/30/19	
Reviewed by: Roopa Mulchandani	10/1/19	<p>[x]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.)</p> <p>[ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a blue colored font.</b></p> <p>[ ]: All comments have been resolved.</p>
Edited by:		

**Title: Teleconference with Mayor Anthony Copeland Regarding the USS Lead East Chicago Site**

**Purpose:** To talk to members from impacted communities regarding the EPA's risk communication activities about the USS Lead Superfund/East Chicago site and determine if residents were receiving human health risk information, understood the risks of the site, and could act accordingly based on EPA's risk communication efforts. Also, to identify if there are opportunities for EPA to improve its risk communication activities with residents of impacted communities, and if so, in what ways.

**Project Guide Step #:** 44b, 45

**Sources:**

**Date/Time:** September 23, 2019; 1:00PM – 1:30 PM EST; **Location:** Via Phone Conference - A call-in number was provided for those dialing in remotely: call in number: 1-855-564-1700, conference extension: (b) (6) participant code: (b) (6)

**List of Attendees:**

#	Name	Title/Organization	Contact Information
1	Jill Trynosky	OIG-OAE-LCWM Program Manager	202-566-2718
2	Roopa Mulchandani	OIG-OAE-LCWM Program Analyst	(b) (6)
3	Morgan Collier	OIG-OAE-LCWM- Program Analyst	202-566-1136
4	Mayor Anthony Copeland	Mayor of East Chicago, Indiana	(b) (6)
5	Carla Morgan	City of East Chicago, Indiana Attorney	(b) (6) (b) (6)
6	Allen Ready	City Attorney	

**Sources**

#	Description/Title	Source Document
1	Question List	<a href="#">Link</a> : Source 1-Interview Questions for Mayor Copeland.pdf

**Scope:** This workpaper is limited to documenting the interview with Mayor Copeland to help answer the second part of the objective for this audit assignment [Communication of Human Health Risk at Sites in OLEM Programs OA&E-FY19-0031]. The interview was held on September 23, 2019 with the attendees listed above.

**Conclusions:**

- 1.) The Mayor and attendees have requested that the team use the words and language in the documents we receive from their office when it comes to historical words the Mayor used in the topic of risk communication at the site (See Details Section 2, 4b).
- 2.) The Mayor's office first became aware of the high lead levels on May 24, 2016 (See Details Section 3).
- 3.) Multiple agencies were involved in talks, however EPA was the lead on risk communication, according to the Mayor (See Details Section 4a/b).

- 4.) Interviewees feel that 2008 EPA action memos show toxic levels, however this wasn't shared with the city until 2016 (See Details Section 4c).
- 5.) PII information was the main reason given for delays in communication of risks in 2016 (See Details Section 5a).
- 6.) The city had concerns about toxic rubber mulch being placed in playgrounds in the area (See Details Section 5a).
- 7.) July 2016 is when EPA sent letters and sent a press release to residents about the lead levels (See Details Section 5a).
- 8.) EPA may have given lead data to a local utility company before the city (See Details Section 8a).
- 9.) Communication today is improved, wasn't that way in the past, they didn't feel it was honest (See Details Section 11a, 13a).

### **Meeting Details:**

- 1.) **Question from interviewees:** What comes out of this meeting, is it public, closed? Have we personally been at the site?
  - a. Yes we have. We went to the site, met with the community groups, held a public listening session, the EPA technical staff gave us a site tour.
  - b. They have concerns about being honest and frank, and the impact. The ROD has been reopened to revisit the site and the initial decision.
  - c. Timing of the release of information-January-draft→ EPA first and then public afterwards, early correspondence between EPA and office?
- 2.) **Mayor:** stated that he has written documentation that he would want to share
  - a. **Jill:** Who do we contact for correspondence?
  - b. **Carla** can provide those
- 3.) The Mayor's office first found out on May 24, 2016
- 4.) **Jill:** Who do you see as the lead agency in risk communication about lead contamination?
  - a. **Mayor:** We had joint meetings with HUD, DOJ, EPA, IDEM, ATSDR, CDC, State reps – met with about 20 people in a room.
  - b. **Carla:** From the start of Mayor's administration, the EPA Region 5 office was the lead. On March 21, 2016 – the DOJ became involved. We had another meeting on May 24, 2016 with EPA, DOJ and HUD – EPA was always the lead in communicating risk. The Mayor's letters describe the woefully inadequate risk communication.
  - c. **Link: Chapter 2.docx** **Carla + Mayor:** Even though in 2008 there were EPA letters (action memos), the Mayor's office didn't get that information until May 2016 – that informed us that there were lead levels at ground level in excess (i.e. pregnant women and children walking on the ground could get exposure). **Link: INDEX Link: Chapter 2.docx**
- 5.) **Jill:** Was there any expectation to communication with the residents or instructions?
  - a. **Link: Chapter 2.docx Link: Chapter 2.docx** **Carl + Mayor:** No instructions were given. EPA said that information shared in May 2016 included PII and couldn't be shared because it was confidential. Finally in mid July 2016, EPA started to send letters out to residents and followed that with a press release, "EPA



takes steps to reduce exposure at West Calumet housing complex” that is when EPA stated they will put shredded rubber mulch around playgrounds at Goodman Park – we had to tell EPA that the shredded rubber mulch was not safe/toxic for children and that it is not used in playgrounds anymore. [Link: INDEX](#)

- b. **Mayor:** My letters are very detailed.
- 6.) **Jill:** Anything you needed them to provide?
  - a. **Mayor:** It will be revealed in the letters.
- 7.) **Jill:** At this time do you feel you have gotten everything you need from EPA?
  - a. **Mayor:** At this time, we feel some type of closure, but we are waiting for EPA to release the ROD. I have told EPA that I want it to be cleaned up to residential standards. That is why I told my residents to leave that complex – EPA comes in to clean with hazmat suits but kids are running around with no protection.
- 8.) **Jill:** Is it correct to say that EPA didn’t provide timely information?
  - a. **Carla:** Information provided was woefully inaccurate to protect human health. When the Mayor told residents in late July 2016 about the issues with lead then HUD agreed to relocate residents. They didn’t provide information—wanted to pretend it was the average cleanup and hid that it was as contaminated as it was, the mayor communicated how contaminated it was. Once the mayor alerted residents HUD relocated residents that was a dramatic shift, and then a relationship shifted with agencies and mayor, EPA only gave bare minimum information at the beginning I don’t think EPA when they handed us the information knew that we were aware of another non-EPA study about the rubber mulch. Then the relationship took a turn. I think before they treated us “in the dark.” [Link: INDEX](#)
  - b. **Mayor:** EPA would never tell us the lead levels. EPA gave the levels information to the local utility company (NESCO) years before.
  - c. **Carla:** Mayor’s letters will give that information and 2011 health study also speaks to health miscommunication.
  - d. **Mayor:** I lost 1200 residents.
- 9.) **Jill:** Does the city still own it?
  - a. **Mayor:** The housing authority owns it.
- 10.) **Attorney:** The city is defending numerous lawsuits about not warning citizens when it has a duty to do so. Here we have to defend these things against multiple liabilities/damages from superfund and housing and health hazard and allegation is that the city knew and to warn citizens against harm, but you know the issue is of us not knowing everything. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - a. **Mayor:** That is why I want to give you these letters that can go out in the public domain. I will stand behind the words in these letters that I sent to HUD, EPA, from day one.
  - b. **Mayor:** Will exit the meeting and let the record stand as how we deal with the situation from when it began to today. We will see how the ROD amendment will come through.
- 11.) **Jill:** Now communication with EPA has improved and EPA is communicating risks? [Link: INDEX](#)



- a. **Mayor:** I would say that if I call the current RA – Cathy Stepp – she would return my phone call– she has visited and we have walked on the site together – she has the clearest stance on how we clean the property, how we have it for reuse.
- 12.) **Jill:** There are open channels of communication? [Link:](#) INDEX
- a. **Mayor:** Yes.
- 13.) **Jill:** And it wasn't always that way in the past.
- a. **Carla:** No and communication was not honest – tell us things but no data with the information needed.
- 14.) (b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (5); (b) (6)

Questions for Mayor Copeland about the USS Lead Superfund Site and the U.S. EPA

1. When (approximately what year) were you first made aware of the high levels of lead in the soil of residential yards, parks and other areas of East Chicago?
2. How did you first learn about the lead contamination?
3. Who do you believe has been the lead agency or office in the area of risk communication and sharing of information about lead contamination with East Chicago residents?
4. When did EPA first contact you (or your office) about the lead contamination?
5. How did the EPA communicate with you (or your office) about the risks related to the lead contamination in East Chicago?
6. Was any information from the EPA used in the decision to demolish the East Calumet Housing Area and if so, what information was used and how? Was the EPA's information used to make other decisions in East Chicago? Is there any information that was requested of the EPA that it did not provide?
7. From your point of view, was the risk information and communication from the EPA on the presence or absence of lead contamination in East Chicago timely? Why or why not?
8. At any time has the EPA given you (or other city leaders) instructions on communicating information on the presence or absence of lead contamination or the risks related to lead contamination with East Chicago residents?
9. How well did you understand the EPA's information on the presence or absence of lead contamination and the risks from lead contamination in East Chicago? Did you have any uncertainty related to the information the EPA provided? Why or why not?
10. How effective is the EPA's current communication on the risks related to lead contamination in East Chicago – in terms of meeting the needs of residents and city leaders? What improvements could be made?

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Alisha Chugh	07/19/19	1. Need contact info. For Regina Barnes to put in List of Attendees table below.
Reviewed by: Jill Trynosky	8/9/2019	<p>[x]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.)</p> <p>[ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a blue colored font</b>.</p> <p>[ ]: All comments have been resolved.</p> <p>Please add the first names for meeting participants in the future. I added Senator Randolph's name to this wp.</p>
Edited by:		

**Title: Teleconference with Senator Lonnie M. Randolph from Indiana Regarding East Chicago Site**

**Purpose:** To talk to members from impacted communities regarding the EPA's risk communication activities about the USS Lead Superfund/East Chicago site and determine if residents were receiving human health risk information, understood the risks of the site, and could act accordingly based on EPA's risk communication efforts. Also, to identify if there are opportunities for EPA to improve its risk communication activities with residents of impacted communities, and if so, in what ways.

**Project Guide Step #:** 44b, 45

**Sources:**

**Date/Time:** July 18, 2019; 9:30AM – 10:30 AM EST; **Location:** Via Phone Conference - A call-in number was provided for those dialing in remotely: 202-991-0477; Conference ID

**(b) (6)**

**List of Attendees:**

#	Name	Title/Organization	Contact Information
1	Jill Trynosky	OIG-OAE-LCWM Program Manager	202-566-2718
2	Alisha Chugh	OIG-OAE-LCWM Program Analyst	202-566-0962
3	Kentia Elbaum	OIG-OCCPA-CPAD Public Affairs Specialist	202-566-2548
4	Morgan Collier	OIG-OAE-LCWM- Program Analyst	202-566-1136
5	Roopa Mulchandani	OIG-OAE-LCWM- Program Analyst	(b) (6)
6	Senator Lonnie M. Randolph	State of Indiana, State Senator His contact information is phone: (b) (6) or 800-382-9467; email: (b) (6)	(b) (6)

**Scope:** This workpaper is limited to documenting the interview with Senator Randolph (Indiana) to help answer the second part of the objective for this audit assignment [Communication of Human Health Risk at Sites in OLEM Programs OA&E-FY19-0031]. The interview was held on July 18, 2019 with the attendees listed above.

**Conclusions:**

1. According to Senator Randolph, no specific information was provided to residents from the Mayor on why they had to evacuate the area other than that there were lead and arsenic in the soil [See Meeting Details #2, sentence 3]. EPA eventually contacted residents, but there was not much communication there [See Meeting Details #2, sentence 5-6].

2. The Mayor's letter did not identify the different options residents had, such as to stay in place and have remedial action take place in their homes or to evacuate the area. They were just told to evacuate the area [[See Meeting Details, #3](#)].
3. For the testing of lead in kids, the elderly, sick or pregnant residents in the area (i.e. – people more at risk), the state health department did what they could to help out. For people testing positive for lead, there were not any treatment options provided or relayed to people after testing positive [[Meeting Details #5, yellow highlight](#)].
4. Senator Randolph believes the EPA could've been more aggressive in relaying options to residents near the site. EPA made it seem like they couldn't do anything until they heard from the Mayor. EPA could've done a better job setting up meetings with the residents right away. They could've done flyers, knocked on doors, documented information in the newspapers that there is contamination in the area, the options residents have for it, and what EPA has done to address it. That was not done [[Meeting Details #7](#)].
5. According to Senator Randolph, EPA could have been a lot more efficient by providing more information to residents; they could have been more sensitive to the need and situations of the residents living in East Chicago– the attitude/sympathy for people in this situation was lacking; they could have been more aggressive in their handling of issues at this site [[Meeting Details #17](#)]. The information provided lacked quality and it could have been provided faster. They could have been more aggressive and set up meetings earlier with the residents near the site [[Meeting Details #19](#)].

### **Meeting Details:**

1. **Jill Trynosky** – We met last month at the OIG East Chicago Listening Session. We set up this call to get additional feedback from you. I will open it up to you to provide us with more information you would like to share.
2. **Senator Randolph** – If I could start from the beginning. A letter came in from the Mayor to the residents in East Chicago saying they might have to evacuate. No specific information was provided from the Mayor to the residents on why they would have to evacuate other than that there were lead and arsenic in the soil. After much agitation from the residents, that's when we discovered EPA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) were involved. The concern was that it is not the residents' obligation to contact the EPA; it's EPA's responsibility to contact the residents. So eventually EPA contacted residents, but not much communication was there.
3. **Senator Randolph** - There was a subsequent letter from the Mayor to residents saying to evacuate the area immediately. It did not identify the different options residents had, such as to stay in place and have remedial action take place in their homes, to evacuate the area, or a third option I can't remember right now. A lot of the residents are older and

preferred staying in place and letting EPA treat/remediate the issue in their homes. But, the letter from the Mayor made it sound like the only option residents had was to evacuate. People didn't know where or how to evacuate. They were told HUD had to be involved in the evacuation process to help find Section 8 housing. There is very little Section 8 housing in the nearby area though. Residents were contacting relatives in other states. HUD said they didn't have funds to relocate residents more than 50 miles though.

4. **Senator Randolph** – I made efforts to reach out to attorneys at law clinics; that's when Debbie (Deborah) Chizewer got involved from Northwestern University and filed a complaint with HUD, so the issues of relocating residents beyond 50 miles was worked out. But meanwhile, remediation at the site was still going on. Residents were trying to find out what they should do and the options available; they did not know an option was to stay in their homes while remediation happens in their homes. I was the main spokesperson for the community at that time. Since then, we've established the East Chicago Calumet Coalition Community Advisory Group (CAG).
5. **Senator Randolph** – One of the other issues that developed was lead testing in people and there were concerns about women who were pregnant and young kids. So, we brought in the governor's office to help – he brought in an extra \$100,000 to aid in efforts at East Chicago. We also had a national nursing situation and brought their people in to help as well; they aided in the Flint, MI situation also. There were no supplemental systems other than EPA saying we are available, if you need to reach us. For the testing of lead in kids, the elderly, sick or pregnant residents in the area, the state health department did what they could to help out. For people testing positive for lead, there were not any treatment options provided or relayed to people after testing positive. Then there were questions raised on if there is lead in the water. We got volunteers to bring in water for residents who did not want to drink tap water. The East Chicago Superfund Site had zones 1, 2, and 3 and had been in existence for some time, but that information was not relayed to us.
6. **Jill Trynosky** – I want to focus in on the EPA; I heard you say EPA did not relay other options to residents. Is there any other communication you feel EPA could've done, or anything you thought did go well by EPA?
7. **Senator Randolph** – I thought the EPA could've been more aggressive in relaying options to residents near the site. EPA made it seem like they couldn't do anything until they heard from the Mayor. I think EPA could've done a better job setting up meetings with the residents right away. They could've done flyers, knocked on doors, documented information in the newspapers that there is contamination in the area, the options residents have for it, and what EPA has done to address it. That was not done. A Region 5 staff person came into my office, I gave him contacts for individual people/residents to contact, but then that staff person was replaced by someone else.

8. **Jill Trynosky** – In Zone 1 is where they had to do the evacuation, any issues or concerns with work EPA did in Zone 2 and 3?
9. **Senator Randolph** – There was a complaint that in Zone 2 they were being selective of which resident's homes they did remediation on, so that was an issue. Also, there was an issue concerning how deep into the soil the remediation would go; it was said would only go 24 inches, but some people were saying need to go 3-4 feet deep for remediation to get rid of all the contamination. A grade school was in Zone 1. North of the grade school was a 2-block residential area, but for some reason it was determined the grade school didn't have any contamination, but the residential area north of it did. So, there is confusion of how they determined the zones, and determined where the contamination was in the area. Senator Randolph explained the boundaries for the three zones at the USS Lead Superfund/East Chicago Site.
10. **Jill Trynosky** – Can you tell us more about the testing and how results and health risks were communicated to the residents of East Chicago?
11. **Senator Randolph** – It was not communicated very efficiently. I had to get the State Health Department involved and got the Governor's office to provide additional funding for issues in East Chicago. For people testing positive for lead, they never got an answer on who would be treating these residents and how. No person was identified on who would come do the testing first of all, and no person was identified on who would apply the remedy/treatments for residents testing positive for lead.
12. **Jill Trynosky** – Timeframe for this activity you mentioned?
13. **Senator Randolph** – Around 2016.
14. **Jill Trynosky** – Have you seen any additional communication or any changes in communication by EPA over time?
15. **Senator Randolph** – There have been a couple of community meetings with EPA and ATSDR, giving residents information on the soil contamination of lead and arsenic. Debbie (Deborah) Chizewer was not happy with some of the comments made by EPA and ATSDR because felt some of the information they were giving didn't sound right.
16. **Jill Trynosky** – What stands out to you on a couple things EPA could have done differently in communication?
17. **Senator Randolph** – They could have been a lot more efficient by providing more information to residents; they could have been more sensitive to the need and situations of the residents living in East Chicago– the attitude/sympathy for people in this situation was lacking; they could have been more aggressive in their handling of issues at this site.



18. **Jill Trynosky** – Could you further explain what you mean by more efficient?
19. **Senator Randolph** – The information provided lacked quality and it could have been provided faster. They could have been more aggressive and set up meetings earlier with the residents near the site.
20. **Senator Randolph** – I would like to go through my files and maybe in the middle or end of August provide more information to you.
21. **Jill Trynosky** – If in August that should be fine and fit in with our timelines for the report.
22. **Senator Randolph** – Okay, Jill I have your number, so I'll reach out to you.

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:19 AM**

NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
WP Prepared by: Morgan Collier	09/5/2019	
Reviewed by: B.Baker	02/19/2020	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included comments in a red colored font.</p> <p>BB – Hyperlinks to from the conclusion to the text within the body of the document are very helpful and should be implemented going forward.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All comments resolved</p>
Edited by: Morgan Collier	05/12/2020	Conclusions added for indexing purposes in blue.
Reviewed by:		

**Title:** USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session

**Purpose:** To solicit and document input regarding the EPA's communication about the USS Lead/East Chicago site in East Chicago, Indiana related to:

- Site sampling and monitoring results
- Indicators of human health risk
- Steps needed to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances
- The timeliness and effectiveness of the EPA's communication regarding this site

**Project Guide Step:** 44b

**Sources:**

#	Description/Title	Source Document
1	USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session Speaker Sign-up Sheet	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 1-USS Lead Listening Session Sign In Sheet.pdf
2	USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session Media Sign-in Sheet	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 2-USS Lead Media Sign In Sheet.pdf
3	USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session Slide Deck	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 3-USS Lead-East Chicago Listening Session Slides.pdf
4	USS Lead/East Chicago Trip Itinerary	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 4-USS Lead-East Chicago Trip Itinerary .pdf
5	USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session Media Advisory	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 5-USS Lead-East Chicago Listening Session Media Advisory.pdf

Date/Time: June 26, 2019; 6:00PM-8:00PM ET [Link:](#) INDEX

**Location: List of OIG Attendees:**

#	Name	Title/Organization	Contact Information
1	Tina Lovingood	OIG-OAE-LCWM Director	202-566-2906
2	Jill Trynosky	OIG-OAE-LCWM Project Manager	202-566-2718
3	Morgan Collier	OIG-OAE-LCWM Program Analyst	202-566-1136
4	Allison Krenzien	OIG-OAE-ERP Program Analyst	(b) (6)
5	Charles Brunton	OIG-OAE-WD Program Analyst	202-566-9974
6	Jeff Lagda	OIG-OCCPA Congressional and Media Liaison	(b) (6)
7	Jason Elkins	OIG-OCCPA-CPAD Public Affairs Specialist	202-566-1408
8	Julie Narimatsu	OIG-OAE-AD Management and Program Analyst	(b) (6)

**List of Community Speakers:** See Source 1

**Scope:** Information collected is from people that signed up to speak at the listening session at East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy (ECUEA) 1402 East Chicago Ave, East Chicago, IN 46312 on June 26, 2019 6-8pm.

**Conclusions:****Part 1: Concerns Voiced**

- 1.) No disclosure that homes are located on a Superfund Site (See Details Section 2. 1C, 16A) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY] [Link: INDEX](#)
- 2.) They were not notified of the dangers (See Details Section 2. 1D, 17A). [Link: INDEX](#)  
[Link: pjmNational RC Report Summary Conclusion Avoid Exposure 12-10-20.docx](#)
- 3.) There was no signage, and there were no steps in place to avoid risks (See Details Section 2. 1E) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY]. [Link: pjmNational RC Report Summary Conclusion Avoid Exposure 12-10-20.docx](#)

- 4.) Physicians don't know where the illnesses are coming from (See Details Section 2. 1F). [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY].
- 5.) Notification of the purpose of public meetings is unclear [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TOO TECHNICAL] (See Details Section 2. 1G).
- 6.) The site website is too technical, and the monthly meetings are also technical [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TOO TECHNICAL] (See Details Section 2. 1G, 15A). [Link: INDEX](#)
- 7.) There are lots of illnesses in the area (See Details Section 2. 2B, 8A).
- 8.) There has been a legacy of miscommunication (See Details Section 2. 2C-D) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY].
- 9.) Feel that they are not invited to meetings (See Details Section 2. 2E) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY].
- 10.) There is a lack of effective communication and people have to protest (See Details Section 2. 3A).
- 11.) Unsure who to contact at the site (See Details Section 2. 3E) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY].
- 12.) People don't know if they're safe (See Details Section 2. 4A, 7B). [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY] [Link: pjmNational RC Report Summary Conclusion Avoid Exposure 12-10-20.docx](#)
- 13.) There has been a failure to protect human health (See Details Section 2. 8B).
- 14.) They have not been given an explanation for why zones were split into 3 (See Details Section 2. 8C) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY].
- 15.) The PRP is the decision maker, not EPA (See Details Section 2. 8G).
- 16.) Residents have brought up issues that EPA has ignored (See Details Section 2. 8H, 9A, 9C).
- 17.) Clean up is based on a failed health study (See Details Section 2. 8I, 10A). [Link: INDEX](#)
- 18.) Criteria is scientifically poor (See Details Section 2. 9B).
- 19.) The plan for zone 1 is confusing and people feel misled [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TOO TECHNICAL] (See Details Section 2. 10B).
- 20.) Empty lots are being cleaned before occupied lots (See Details Section 2. 11A).
- 21.) People today still don't know (See Details Section 2. 13A) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TRANSPARENCY]. [Link: pjmNational RC Report Summary Conclusion Avoid Exposure 12-10-20.docx](#)
- 22.) EPA does not recognize the CAG. EPA has done little for the community (See Details Section 2. 14A).
- 23.) A written questionnaire was distributed during the listening session, for attendees to provide written feedback for up to two weeks via email or postal mail (Auditor conclusion, see source 3, slide 5).
- 24.) Attendees at the listening session voiced concerns about the timeliness and quality of information being communicated (See Details Section 2. 2C, 13A). In addition, they also voiced confusion surrounding the health effects, sampling activities and test results at the site communicated (See Details Section 2. 4A, 7B, 9A).

- 25.) According to attendees, when the EPA did share information with those in the community, it did not provide them with a clear understanding of the site's history and cleanup (See Details Section 2. 3E, 8C, 8D, 11A).
- 26.) Attendees don't believe the EPA has been communicating with them for decades (See Details Section 2. 1B, 1D, 8B; Section 3. Bi) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TOO TIMELINESS].
- 27.) Some attendees felt that documents were technical and not clear and bilingual (See Details Section 3. Bvii) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – TOO TECHNICAL].
- 28.) Some attendees think that EPA's communication on the risks associated with multiple contamination at multiple sites has not been clear and there has been an increased environmental burden in the area. Some attendees also voiced that even though the community within site is an environmental justice community, it is not treated as such (See Details Section 2. 8C, 8F; Section 3. Bv) [OIG IDENTIFIED KEY RISK COMMUNICATION CONCERN 1 – ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN].
- 29.) The OIG identified 4 key risk communication concerns out of what we heard at the listening session: 1 – timeliness, 2 – too technical and not bilingual, 3 – EJ community impacted by the disproportionate burden from multiple surrounding contaminated sites, and 4 –transparency. (OIG conclusion based on conclusions 1-28 above, see color coded notes after each conclusion).
- 30.) Analyst conclusion: Resident expressed confusion on the EPA's role regarding certain risk communication activities that could facilitate informed decisions about the child's health (i.e. relating high levels of lead with ADHD, notification of exposure to chemicals in home, lifelong testing, extra-curricular tutoring) (Detail 17)

## **Part 2: Positive Statements:**

- 1.) Yards look really nice and Janet Pope is very helpful (See Details Section 2. 6A).

## **Details:**

\*Karen Kirchner, EPA Remedial Project Manager, attended the listening session.

## **Section 1: Introductions given by Jill Trynosky and Allison Krenzien**

- A. Allison gave an overall on who the OIG is: We are an independent part of the EPA. We get a separate funding source, we have our own management, and we maintain our independence.
- B. Our office performs audit investigations of the EPA and our reports are made available to the public
- C. We do not make any technical decisions at the site and we are not risk communicators
- D. We are doing a nationwide review of EPA sites
- E. We are interested in whether EPA is communicating about health risk and sampling results
- F. This is one of 8 sites we are looking at in our review. These sites were chosen in combination with OIG and EPA input and with research we performed ourselves

- G. We want to focus specifically on EPA communication activities. Some topics may include the state and other groups working at the site
- H. Jill gave some ground rules. She added that the survey picked up at the front was about EPA's communication and that if the attendees could return those at the end of the meeting that would help us in tabulating the answers and giving them to EPA in our report
- I. There was also a half a sheet with contact information about the site and our mailing and email address
- J. She thanked the community and stated that we are here because of them. We also recognize that it is emotional/there are concerns of children health and others and we want to hear this information. We are looking to improve EPA programs.
- K. There is a speaker sign in sheet. Speakers will be given 3 minutes to speak and then we will go back around again after everyone has had a chance to speak. Allison will help out with the time.
- L. At the end, we will give an overview and be available for questions at the front of the room.

## Section 2: Meeting Comments

Sherry Hunter—did not want to speak first

### 1. -Maritza Lopez:

- a. She's a lifetime resident, lives in zone 3/East Calumet. Her parents moved here for better life. [Link: INDEX](#)
- b. Her mom worked for the city clerk 40 years, 27.5 years as secretary. During those 27.5 never heard from EPA as to what was going on, her mom would have told her. If the paper would have heard she would have known.
- c. [Link: PSSC Summary on Disclosures.docx](#) They had to refinance the home. There was flooding of the calumet river, they lived in a Superfund site. In 2011, she passed away and Ms. Lopez had to purchase a home. The paperwork didn't disclose that it was a Superfund site. She's closed and 2 weeks got a letter from a Mr. Burgoff—stating to be careful and be concerned. If u think you are contaminated take your shoes off at the door because we have to wait for funding for the cleanup. [Link: INDEX](#) [Link: Timeliness Summary](#) [Link: Chapter 2.docx](#)
- d. There was a meeting in Riley 2014—still working and didn't know. They were never notified/communicated on the dangers. Her front yard had arsenic, then she realized it came from the soil.
- e. *Comments Part 2, second time speaking.*—She has lived here since 1974 and lived 8 feet from DuPont and could say that nothing took place in that area. She went into the site and had a fort in the area. There were no signs to be aware/be careful. No human health risks were placed on the Superfund Site. There were no steps [put in place] to avoid.
- f. They need to inform them first of what the contaminants could do to them, and what they combined could do to them. Arsenic causes cancer and they need to give them paperwork. Physicians do not know where they are coming from. They are not touching the cadmium. [Link: Link: INDEX](#)

- g. Feel there should be long term testing for life. Timeliness-[notified] 2 weeks prior to meetings-bullet points and they didn't know what it was about and no one showed up. Look at website, which is hard to understand and level of education is a problem for effectiveness. [Link: INDEX](#)
2. **Mr. Thomas Frank**
- a. Lives 2 blocks from the Superfund Site.
  - b. West Calumet was on top of it. In 1990, the site was proposed to be in a Superfund program and was delayed for 17 years. [Link: Timeliness Summary](#) Multiple generations became effected and harmed. Recently had to morn passing of someone with cancer, Tony Harris—top scoring for the Celtics and released because of behavior issues-grew up here. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - c. A child had 28 dc/mg. They are worried about homes and the pathways. They are worried about the legacy of miscommunication and moving forward. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - d. In 2007, Burgoff and EPA held meetings about contamination. Had 13 properties cleaned up, and they didn't know of more were going to be cleaned. The next summer, they showed up to Calumet days and talked about how to live with contaminated soil. **There was mixed-messaging and confusion.** Became Superfund [NPL] in 2009, and they came out and talked about ROD. They tried to challenge and re-open the ROD and thought community was not informed.
  - e. Contemporary issues-DuPont/West Calumet they want a full cleanup. They afford DuPont to control the meeting for redevelopment proposal and they feel like they are suffering, and are not invited to control a meeting.
3. **State Senator Randolph**
- a. Has a long list of stories. There has been a lack of effective communication. Have to ask questions and protest. Relocation is important.
  - b. There are issues with health testing for kids. They are trying to get city to respond to testing and see how many have lead. What is the remedy, what is the health decision?
  - c. There are single citizens in zone 1. Issue on whether or not they could stay for remediation or relocate, question if in fact the residents wanted to stay, who supersedes and makes decision on this?
  - d. Question for Inspector General—Are we looking at concerns/recommendations and what happens? What committee oversees this and which Chairman's oversee? Is there a liaison that can work with the citizens to let them know? (Jill responded; and Jeff will talk on committee-house science, house and Senate appropriations).
  - e. Cleanup has not been clearly explained and they don't know who to contact. (Jill- Region 5, CIC is the liaison—Janet Pope; decision about remediation go to EPA) [Link: INDEX](#)
4. **Jenny Alford**



- a. Lives in Zones 1 and 2 and has family in Zone 1. She has property in Zone 3 and the property has not been tested and she wanted to know if they were safe? [Link: INDEX](#)
5. **Joe Dragovich**
  - a. Said he [EPA] would cleanup in zone 1, number in housing was 32 and there was arsenic inside, and they told you to stay there. No one wants to live in house with that high of a number.
  - b. The first piece of information of the numbers in zone 1 were outrageous and they couldn't stay there. They told him to stay. They demolished houses because they were deteriorating. It's a complicated issue because of deterioration and lead, he thinks it's because of lead.
  - c. In the letter it is twisted. Cleaning to 2 feet and put up a barrier. People don't want to move in there with the way it is set up. And the letter says the same thing.
  - d. Do more than a simple blood test.
  - e. Dupont in the start of a cleanup process. EPA or state and figure out exactly, check out what they are doing and pulling out, no reference for it and sees it as a dump place. See something wrong and you report it. Can't stay with those kind of numbers it is insane. Brought information with him to share with and can email it to us.
6. **Sherry Hunter**
  - a. [Link: Chapter 2.docx](#) Resident, and has lived in Zone 1 and 2. EPA has done a good job with the yards, problem is old building. Ms. Pope helps a lot and she likes the Indiana EPA. They put filters in homes every so often. Yards are beautiful/gorgeous; she thinks they are doing a good job at where she is at. She's known about the lead since 1958. Eagle Picher school burned down, she went to school at a plant, until Carrie Gosch was built. **Auditor's note:** Janet Pope is the Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) for the USS Lead site. [Link: PSSC OEM East Chicago USS Lead CIC Interview 4.10.19.docx](#)
7. **Frank Presick:**
  - a. Lake Michigan travels underground, and in 5 years comes back there, EPA is not worried about when it comes back.
  - b. He doesn't want to bring his grandkids here because of the arsenic. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - c. There's still arsenic/lead. The groundwater comes back in 5 years. They are having problems all over again; industry here knows.
8. **Larry Davis:**
  - a. Two people lost their fight, intelligent and active members of the community and he had the pleasure to befriend them. Both passed this year, died of cancer. They are symbolic of countless people who have lived here for years, and they die young before they are 50, welcome to East Chicago where it is toxic. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - b. Not only did EPA do inadequate job of communicating risk but they along with other state agencies have failed to protect human health, and they suffer the threats on a daily basis. They knew about the risks since 1985 at least, since then generation have been exposed-from contaminated dust –first page of letter; 1989

IDEM required the full extent of contamination to be identified and cleaned up—told that was of no concern. Read that the decree order doesn't specify talks about whole site. 14 acre, EPA approved and it disposed of contamination and deliberately in the community and built site. Interim measure even though the EPA corrective action meant is not a hazardous, interim awaited, does not represent final remedies, this is their final remedy in east Chicago. [Link: INDEX](#)

- c. In 2012—there was one zone; now they have three zones. Never were given an explanation as to why there are 3 zones. Zone 2 was left out of consent decree. By 2014, OU1 had an increase in environmental burden—added more toxic wastes in the DuPont facility that is also in the area, disposed on an onsite dump, this is a landfill not a dumpsite. It was supposed to close in the 80's and it is still open and is an unpermitted landfill and meets no requirements. It is buried close to people's homes.
- d. EPA has modified USS Lead and excluded the Carrie Gosch school, and it isn't a part of it now. They haven't gotten an explanation for that either. Vapor intrusion of sub-surface is another flaw. Air deposition event and they have ignored buried waste underground. It is buried in plants like other superfund sites. Same thing here except there's no recognition of those threats here.
- e. CDF were here in East Chicago—issued a permit for largest PCE in great lake. Carrie Gosch was relocated and is near the center high school and less than half mile.
- f. IDEM and EPA would not issue. In a press conference stated it and then told residents. 310/million, supposed to be an EJ community and they don't act like it is and there's no cleanup in this community.
- g. *Second Time Speaking*: EPA doesn't make the decisions, it is the PRP contractors who do—what information will be excluded and will come off with their studies-remedial investigation and are improved by EPA. IDEM and EPA now just EPA. Entire communities that have not been they are living on it.
- h. EPA's own air deposition study shows that communities are being affected and they haven't even been told. He went to that meeting at another site—they will not do that at USS Lead and there's no explanation. "Give their homes a thorough clean" was the response. Preemptive conclusion that air deposition is the only source although records indicated slag being sold. Brought this up to cleanup directors-and the response received was "why aren't you cleaning"—"yeah what is that we are finding in everyone's yard?" and it was slag and it was just left in the yards. Minimize the threat and not communicate the threat, and deeper waste is being ignored. Residents have brought this to EPA's attention and they have ignored. They were not told, unaware, incomplete cleanup. Add up infrastructure in community less than 50% is actually being cleaned up. He feels they are digging it up and putting it at a dump and throwing into another community. They never looked for dioxin and why is that? If you don't look than you don't have to do anything about it. [Link: INDEX](#)

- i. DuPont doing experiments on drinking water even though EPA guidance says you need permits for this. He feels that it has been criminal what has happened at this community. Not permitted facilities and not engineered facilities. They cannot meet the minimum requirements and here we are. Entire communities have not been informed. Property values—20 years ago worth 120,000 now worth 33,000. People are trapped in their mortgages. Who's buying, people renting and young families starting out. The next generation move in to be chronically exposed to toxins. There needs to be a full cleanup of Northwest Indiana. Half a mile from schools, contaminated. Emissions from there will be increased, and this permit will never be issued. Destroyed credibility and is not a health based decision. Based on risk based on flawed health studies; you can go on and on. Not told the truth and won't tell it if it contradicts what they are doing.
9. **George Silva:**
  - a. Thanked the CAG. His problem is that he has been involved for a while. He has presented documents to EPA and has never received a written response to any points or documents and was promised by EPA with them saying "yes we will answer in 1 week" and a 1 month later it never came. Why are we bothering when the points-technical points → feels they should have answered and according to the rules they have not answered them/and he wants some answer.
  - b. The cleanup has been attempted and is inadequate in his opinion. They dug up a small amount of soil and then did some magic that turned out to say that this person gets it cleaned up and other doesn't. Feels that the criteria is scientifically poor, this is the problem they have here. He wants receipts for documents.
  - c. *Second Time Speaking:* Point is that the cleanup is inadequate and he has challenged them and they never came back. They never answered them and he thinks that is wrong and is more than happy to debate. After getting push back, the CDC stopped coming to meetings and he wants everyone to understand that there are other chemicals than lead and arsenic and that they are being exposed to them and no one can tell them what their sensitivities are to. If you live here ask a lot of questions and don't take anything at face value and make sure you understand and know it is your life and loved ones who will be affected. If OIG could get some answers for them then he would share with them.
10. **Debbie**
  - a. Thanks for coming. There have been two failures—1 in past and 1 that is still having an effect. In the past, the design plan is based on flawed study. There was no way it was safe, but EPA relied on the report anyway. In 2016, people exposed. The federal health agency wanted a corrective part in 2018. 2/3 times as likely to have elevated lead levels, 5 times as likely as other children around the country. Move onto communication, not knowing about the risks. Nothing changed about how EPA communicated about risk. There was no more screening or state symptom checkers. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - b. For the second example—the plan to cleanup zone 1 now that housing is demolished. They released a plan for residential areas to only be excavated to 2

feet. In Indiana law—you need to dig three feet to have foundation, so how does this work? The mayor and residents want it to be residential. Institutional controls for last foot. Transfer the cost from polluters to the developers/community. Felt misled about the plans in zone 1.

11. **Devin:**

- a. Lives in Zone 2. Felt that they kept things from them and that their actions are confusing. He has young kids that play in contaminated yards. There are empty lots being cleanup before his, and this does not make sense to him. The groundwater should be tested. Their home is built on top of an old smelter. He has goop that comes up, and his basement looks like swamp from seepage. The yard looks good. He wants to see student health and wants to see them have the same opportunities. [Link](#): [Link](#): [Link](#): **INDEX**

12. **Al foster:** Chose not to speak.

13. **Tara:**

- a. Had a question. Had never been given anything—former president of the west calumet complex. They need to know for themselves and their children. Communication on how important this is and I don't think they are stressed and thinks it is important. Being close to lead and arsenic it is important. Others knew but unfortunately she didn't and still didn't know it was a superfund site when it became one. Still today people don't know. She has a has a relative in Zone 3 and no one told her anything, communication not there. Timing is a “no” (addressed the points on the slide). [Link](#): [Link](#): **INDEX**

14. **Karl:**

- a. 3 blocks northwest of the superfund site. Been a problem for 20 plus years, been 35 plus years that EPA requested it to be placed on NPL list. There's a lack of communication to the community at a whole. It's been a community that has had issues with contamination and the CDF/brownfield and everything else in this community. Crossed teeth but that was not included with the communication. No health risks, sampling. Partner parents died, and EPA does not recognize community including the CAG. They helped form a CAG and they believe that communication is far and less. People have lost friends to cancer, known people with health issues/behaviors issue from lead/arsenic and this is why he is getting involved. EPA has done very little for the community. [Link](#): [Link](#): **INDEX**
- b. *Second Time Speaking*—Indiana is known for its high infant mortality rate and East Chicago is the highest community in that. Feels that the low birth rate, must be a connection between that and the contamination in the community. CDC/EPA/IDEM do due diligence, it is in the land and in their coffee, and that hasn't been communicated either.

15. **Shirley**

- a. Lives in Zone 2—Has been difficult. From California to here, it is a big difference where people don't care. Between the city and government, the communication from the EPA was good. **They had monthly meetings, some of the technical language was hard.** Emphasis on the effects of kids—concerned as a mother;

also concerned for senior citizens. Saw lots of people that had cancer. Something now, teared down the building. Dogs running around and that's something that needs to be considered. Facing a situation if someone is coming in to dig it up. Could you do the whole property and not just a portion of the property, [Link](#):

[INDEX](#)

16. **Meghan:**

- a. Local real estate in Northwest area. His concern is that transaction—lead disclosure. Communication from a government agency or lead paint level, would be helpful for EPA to reach out to local relators to talk to them. It is up to the residents to answer questions, but they should have knowledge of the instance. Sets up the owners for a lawsuit. EPA won't be in the lawsuit. In California its Oppm. He heard recently that they are not cleaning if they had 250 ppm. Yes, they should receive notice and it raises a red flag for selling a home. [Link](#): [Link](#): [Link](#): [Link](#): [INDEX](#)

17. **Lakeisha**

---

- a. Been a lifelong resident for 40 plus years. The biggest concern was about the children. Tested child and they had levels of lead at 9. They had issues and ADHD. Had no communication. There was arsenic and lead in the house for 14 years. EPA should have notified them that their kids had been exposing their kids to these chemicals. She feels that lifelong testing should be provided in East Chicago for what they had been exposed to here. In addition, extra-curricular for tutoring and graduate at their levels. They are behind with these issues and this is something that needs to be studied and given the proper care. [Link](#): [Chapter 2.docx](#) [Link](#): [Chapter 2.docx](#)
- 

**Section 3:** Tina closed the meeting

A.) We appreciate the feedback.

B.) The key points discussed:

- i. They don't believe the EPA has been communicating with them for decades.
- ii. They have to protest to be heard.
- iii. They don't understand decisions being made.
- iv. They don't think that was clear and transparent.
- v. They think that the communication on risk and multiple contamination at multiple sites has not been clear-what they are and what they should do.
- vi. They don't believe they have enough notice for meetings.
- vii. They feel that technical docs are not clear and they are not bilingual.
- viii. There are concerns about a lack of trust and EPA being credible.
- ix. There are also cleanup concerns, and some question the integrity of the EPA.





Office of Inspector General of the EPA  
Listening Session about the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana

**SIGN-IN SHEET FOR 3 MINUTE ORAL STATEMENTS**

Date:	Wednesday, June 26, 6-8 p.m. CDT	Location:	East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy, 1402 East Chicago Avenue, East Chicago, IN
-------	----------------------------------	-----------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

#	Name	How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site?
1	Sherry Hunter	3 BLKS
2	Maritza Lopez	ACTUALLY IN IT LIVING
3	Thomas Frank	2 BLOCKS
4	State Senator Hannie M. Randolph	Zones 1, 2 & 3
5	Jenny Alford	zone 1, 2 and 3
6	Joe Dragovich	zone 3
7	Frank Kresie	
8	<del>Frank Kresie</del>	
9	LARRY DAVIS	COMMUNITY ADVISOR
10	George Smolka	Sierra Club.
11	Debbie Chizenon	
12	Aleeshia Daniels	zone 3
13	Devin CRUMES	ZONE 2
14	Ezell Foster	" 3
15		
16	TARA Adams	Former resident
17	CAROLYN EDWARDS	3 BLOCKS



Office of Inspector General of the EPA  
Listening Session about the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana

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Date:	Wednesday, June 26, 6-8 p.m. CDT	Location:	East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy, 1402 East Chicago Avenue, East Chicago, IN
-------	----------------------------------	-----------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

18		
#	Name	
19	Sheryl Oliver	Zone 2
20	Nathan Reader	Realtor
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
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35		



Office of Inspector General of the EPA  
Listening Session about the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana

**SIGN-IN SHEET FOR MEDIA**

Date: Wednesday, June 26, 6-8 p.m. CDT Location: East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy, 1402 East Chicago Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana

#	Name	Publication	Title	Phone	E-mail	Request Interview?
1	Becky Dernbach	freelance	Reporter	(b) (6)		
2	Rob Em	PostTrib	Reporter			
3	Lauren Chapman	IPB News	Reporter	(b) (6)		Yes
4	Robin Rockel	IPB News	Comm. Engagement		(b) (6)	
5	Stephen Joyce	Bloomington				
6	Lauren Cross	Times				
7	LARRY DAVIS	—	—	(b) (6)		
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						



# Office of Inspector General

of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Listening Session:



**USS Lead Superfund Site**

East Chicago, Indiana

Wednesday, June 26, 6-8 p.m. CDT

**Interpretación en español está disponible,  
favor de preguntar a Charles Brunton.**

# What is the EPA OIG?

- An independent office within the EPA
- Mission:
  - perform audits and investigations of the EPA
  - prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse for the EPA
- The OIG does not direct or manage the EPA's communication of human health risks



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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[www.epa.gov/oig](http://www.epa.gov/oig)

# Topics of Discussion

Did the EPA communicate sampling results and health risks to residents near the USS Lead Site?

Fue comunicado por la EPA los riesgos al salud y los resultados de los muestreos cerca del sitio de USS Plomo en East Chicago, Indiana?

Respeto a las comunicaciones de la EPA con los residentes sobre el sitio Superfund de USS Lead en East Chicago, Indiana



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# Topics of Discussion

The OIG wants to hear how the EPA communicated about:

- Site sampling and monitoring results.
- Signs of human health risk.
- Steps needed to avoid harmful contaminants or substances.
- The timeliness and effectiveness of the EPA's communication regarding this site.



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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[www.epa.gov/oig](http://www.epa.gov/oig)

# Contact Information

- Email the OIG Risk Communication Team:
  - [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov)
- Mail comments to:
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Office of Inspector General,  
Attn: OIG Risk Communication Team,  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.,  
Room 2416, Mail Code: 2460T,  
Washington, D.C. 20460- 0001
- U.S. EPA OIG Hotline:
  - 888-546-8740
  - [OIG\\_Hotline@epa.gov](mailto:OIG_Hotline@epa.gov)
- On Twitter, follow us [@EPAOIG](https://twitter.com/EPAOIG)



The poster is titled "Report FRAUD, WASTE and ABUSE". It features the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) logo and the U.S. EPA OIG Hotline number 888.546.8740. The poster lists various types of fraud, waste, and abuse that can be reported, including theft and misuse of government property, contract, procurement and grant fraud, mismanagement and waste of funds, employee misconduct, abuse of authority, conflict of interest, and computer crimes. It also mentions workplace violence and threats directed to employees and facilities. The poster includes the EPA website address [epa.gov/oig](http://epa.gov/oig) and the address of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General Hotline: 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mailcode 2431T, Washington, DC 20460. A small badge on the right side of the poster reads "UNITED STATES SPECIAL AGENT".

Report  
**FRAUD**  
**WASTE** and  
**ABUSE**

  
**U.S. EPA OIG  
HOTLINE**  
888.546.8740

Theft and misuse of government property  
Contract, procurement and grant fraud  
Mismanagement and waste of funds  
Employee misconduct  
Abuse of authority  
Conflict of interest  
Computer crimes

Also report:  
Workplace violence  
Threats directed to employees and facilities

[epa.gov/oig](http://epa.gov/oig)

See website for anonymity guidelines  
and whistleblower information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Inspector General Hotline  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Mailcode 2431T  
Washington, DC 20460



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## MEDIA ADVISORY

**Contact: Jeffrey Lagda**  
(202) 566-2584  
[lagda.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:lagda.jeffrey@epa.gov)

**Tia Elbaum**  
(202) 566-2548  
[elbaum.kentia@epa.gov](mailto:elbaum.kentia@epa.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 12, 2019**

### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE EPA INVITES COMMUNITY TO LISTENING SESSION ABOUT THE USS LEAD SUPERFUND SITE IN EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

**WHAT:** The Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), an independent office within the EPA, will hold a listening session to solicit input from community members regarding the EPA's communication with residents about the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana, related to:

- Site sampling and monitoring results.
- Indicators of human health risk.
- Schedules and milestones for planned and completed site activities.
- Safeguards in place for protecting human health.
- Actions needed to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances.
- The overall timeliness/effectiveness of the EPA's communication regarding this site.

This listening session will be the third of as many as four the OIG will hold in communities nationwide to obtain feedback from residents who live near sites where the EPA is working.

**WHY:** On February 4, 2019, the OIG announced a [review](#) of the EPA's communication of human health risks posed by sites in the Office of Land and Emergency Management's programs.

The OIG is an independent office that performs audits and investigations of the EPA and the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse. As a separate and objective unit within the EPA, the OIG does not direct or manage the EPA's communication of human health risks.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, June 26, 6–8 p.m. CDT

**WHERE:** East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy, 1402 East Chicago Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana

**HOW:** The OIG will hear oral statements from anyone who would like to speak to aid in determining whether the EPA has been communicating in a manner that allows impacted communities to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances. A comment box also will be made available to submit written documentation.

**This event will be open to media.**

For more information about the OIG, visit <http://www.epa.gov/oig>  
and follow us on Twitter at @EPAoig.

###



An official website of the United States government.



# OIG News Release: Media Advisory - EPA OIG Invites Community To Listening Session About Coakley Landfill Site In North Hampton, New Hampshire

May 23, 2019

The EPA's Office of Inspector General will hold a listening session to solicit input from community members regarding the EPA's communication with residents about the Coakley Landfill Site in North Hampton (Rockingham County), New Hampshire.

- **WHEN:** Wednesday, June 5, 6–8 p.m. EDT
- **WHERE:** Bethany Church, 500 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland, New Hampshire

Learn more in the media advisory document below.

Related: On February 4, 2019, the [OIG announced a review of the EPA's communication of human health risks](#) posed by sites in the Office of Land and Emergency Management's programs.

You may need a PDF reader to view some of the files on this page. See EPA's [About PDF page](#) to learn more.

- [Media Advisory \(PDF\)](#) (1 pg, 189 K)

## OIG Independence of EPA

The EPA's **Office of Inspector General** is a part of the EPA, although Congress provides our funding separate from the agency, to ensure our independence. We were created pursuant to the [Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended](#) **EXIT** .

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Environmental Protection Agency | [Office of Inspector General](https://www.epa.gov/oig)  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2410T) | Washington, DC 20460 | (202) 566-2391  
[OIG Hotline](https://www.epa.gov/oig): 1-888-546-8740.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 23, 2019



## USS Lead/East Chicago Listening Session Survey Results

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Morgan Collier	9/5/19	Addressed comments below.
Reviewed by: Roopa Mulchandani	8/19/19 11/26/19	[ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.) [x ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a dark red colored font</b> . <b>To conclusions in purple – please add calculations to support percentages + provide index for support. Add references to the information included in the charts for source 3</b> [X ]: All comments have been resolved.
Edited by:		

### Purpose:

To gather information on the community's experience with the EPA on its risk communication efforts.

*Project Guide Step #: 43*

### Source(s):

#	Description/Title	Source Document
1	East Chicago Community Surveys Part 1 – Scanned	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 1 [PII]-Listening Session Surveys Part 1.pdf
2	East Chicago Community Surveys Part 2- Scanned	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 2 [PII]-Listening Session Surveys Part 2.pdf
3	Survey Results	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 3-Survey Analysis and Charts.xlsx
4	Survey Summary	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 4- East Chicago Survey Summary.xlsx

### Scope: [Link:](#) [Link:](#) [Link:](#) INDEX

The responses were limited to those who voluntarily completed and returned the surveys at the USS Lead/East Chicago listening session on June 26, 2019 (Source 1).

The survey consisted of 4 questions and comment box below: *[Source 1 & 2]*

*Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:*

1. *Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Don't Know      \_\_\_\_\_ Does Not Apply to Me
2. *Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Don't Know      \_\_\_\_\_ Does Not Apply to Me
3. *Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Does Not Apply to Me
4. *How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?*

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

### **Conclusion(s):**

Based on an analysis of survey results:

1. Respondents generally do not believe (96%) that the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely (**See Results Section Question 1**).
  - A total of ~~25~~ 27 participants answered the question. 24 out of the ~~25~~ 27 participants felt that the communication had not been timely, which expressed as a percentage is 96%. [Link:](#) [Link:](#) **INDEX**
  - 1 out of the 27 participants felt that the communication had been timely, which expressed as a percentage is 4%.
  - To see graphic of survey results, please refer to source 3 ([Link:](#) Source 3-Survey Analysis and Charts.xlsx)
2. Additionally, a majority of the respondents (74%) do not believe that the information provided by the EPA has helped them to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances (**See Results Section Question 2**).
  - A total of 27 people responded to this question. 3/27 chose "yes" (expressed as a percent, 11%), 20/27 chose "no" (expressed as a percent, 74%), 2/27 chose "don't know" (expressed as a percent, 7.5%) , and 2/27 chose "does not apply to me" (expressed as a percent, 7.5%). Note, excel rounded some of these to the nearest whole number. [Link:](#) **INDEX**
  - To see graphic of survey results, please refer to source 3 ([Link:](#) Source 3-Survey Analysis and Charts.xlsx)

3. Respondents did not fully understand (59%) the communications received from the EPA (See Results Section Question 3).
  - o 9/27 chose “yes” (expressed as a percent, 33%), 16/27 chose “no” (expressed as a percent, 59%), 2/27 chose “don’t know” “2 chose does not apply to me” (expressed as a percent, 8%). Note, excel rounded some of these to the nearest whole number. [Link: INDEX](#)
  - o To see graphic of survey results, please refer to source 3 ([Link: Source 3-Survey Analysis and Charts.xlsx](#))
4. A majority of respondents (74%) lived at the site in Zones 1-3 (See Results Section Question 4).
  - o 20/27 wrote “lived within zone 1-3” (expressed as a percent, 74%), 3/27 did not respond (expressed as a percent, 15%), 1/27 wrote “lived between 1-5 miles” (expressed as a percent, 4%), 1/27 wrote “lived within 6-10 miles” (expressed as a percent, 7%), 2/27 wrote “>10 miles away”.
  - o To see graphic of survey results, please refer to source 3 ([Link: Source 3-Survey Analysis and Charts.xlsx](#))

## **Results:**

1. Do you believe the EPA’s communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?
  - a. Yes – 1 [[Source 4, Row 34, Green text](#)]
  - b. No – 24 [[Source 4, Rows 34 & 35](#)]
  - c. Don’t know – 0 [[Source 4, Row 35, Gold text](#)]
  - d. Doesn’t apply to me – 2 [[Source 4, Rows 34 & 35, Blue text](#)]
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?
  - a. Yes – 3 [[Source 4, Row 37, Green text](#)]
  - b. No – 20 [[Source 4, Rows 37 & 38](#)]
  - c. Don’t know – 2 [[Source 4, Row 38, Gold text](#)]
  - a. Doesn’t apply to me – 2 [[Source 4, Rows 37 & 38](#)]
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?
  - b. Yes – 9 [[Source 4, Row 41, Green text](#)]
  - a. No – 16 [[Source 4, Rows 41 & 42](#)]
  - b. Doesn’t apply to me – 2 [[Source 4, Rows 41 & 42, Blue text](#)]
  - ~~e. No answer – 0~~
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead site?
  - a. *The answers varied greatly but majority of the respondents were locals.*
  - b. Example answers:
    - i. Within zones 1-3-20 [[Source 4, Rows 44 & 45 Black text](#)]
    - ii. No Response-3 [[Source 4, Row 46, Dark red text](#)]
    - iii. 1-5 miles-1 [[Source 4, Row 45, Blue text](#)]
    - iv. 6—10 miles-1 [[Source 4, Row 45, Gold text](#)]
    - v. >10 miles- 2 [[Source 4, Rows 45 & 46, Green text](#)]
5. Contact Information (emails/phone numbers):

(b) (6)

6. Comments & Contact Info:

- a. (b) (6) @gmail.com. What little there has been (answer to question 3).
- b. (b) (6) we have been allowed to be exposed for 40 years (answer to question 2); they have been mixed messages (answer to question 3)
- c. (b) (6) I don't understand how dust skips houses once the same dust blows both ways (answer to question 3); My children attended Carrie Gosch Elem. In the 93-98' - (b) (6) -people have died from ugly cancers, what if this were your backyard? Have you ever heard of the book Love Canal, true story by Lois Gibbs. Read it, these people should be given reparations for their homes. [Link: INDEX](#)

**U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019**

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

6 mi / 0.5

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

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**U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019**

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Right on it

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number.

(b) (6)

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U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

*I grew up in All 3 Zones and Own a Home in Zone 2 and 3  
and had family in Zone 1*

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number. (b) (6)



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

IN THE SUPERFUND SITE

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

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U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☒ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

~ 5 miles

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

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U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me  
*WHAT LITTLE THERE HAS BEEN!*
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

3 blocks

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. **(b) (6)**

7

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

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1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number **(b) (6)** \_\_\_\_\_

47

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

next door

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number **(b) (6)**



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Far away Gr 4th

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

8

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

across the street - 2 blocks

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number.

**(b) (6)**

9

**U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019**

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☒ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☒ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes      ☒ No      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Zone 2

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

42



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes      ☒ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes      ☒ No      ☐ Don't Know      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes      ☒ No      ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Live in Zone 3

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. **(b) (6)**

16

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

IN THE MIDDLE NEVER call back

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

23

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Have lived in zones 1, 2 and 3

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

37

**U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019**

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I live in a Superfund site

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

34



**U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019**

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

ZONE 3

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I live in Zone 3 of the USS Lead Site

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

13



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me

4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
I don't understand HOW - DUST SKIPS HOUSES, since the wind dust blows both ways.  
D from

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number.

(b) (6)

25

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I work with residents who live on the Superfund site.

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

6

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I live on the USS Lead Superfund Site have lived in All Three Zones (1, 2, & 3)

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number

(b) (6)

3

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Zone 2

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

2



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I live in zone 3

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. **(b) (6)**

46

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

*to close for comfort*

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

35



U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me *None*
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

*I am a former resident of the site*

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number

**(b) (6)**

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

Live in the USS lead superfund

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)

30

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Does Not Apply to Me
4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

I live on the Site my Complete Life.

*Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.*

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or

phone number.

(b) (6)

@gmail.com

4

U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General Survey to East Chicago Listening Session Attendees – June 26, 2019

Based on your experience with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago:

1. Do you believe the EPA's communication of sampling results or other indicators of human health risk has been timely?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't Know

☐ Does Not Apply to Me

2. Do you believe the information provided by the EPA has helped you to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't Know

☐ Does Not Apply to Me

3. Do you fully understand the communications you have received from the EPA?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Does Not Apply to Me

4. How close do you live to the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago?

(b) (6)

My children attended camp (b) (6)

(b) (6)

once the same dust blows both ways. DIED from

Please provide any comments to further explain your answers to the questions above on the back of this survey or email us with "East Chicago" in the subject line at [OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov](mailto:OIG.RiskCommunicationTeam@epa.gov) by July 10.

If we can contact you for additional information regarding this response, please provide your name and email or phone number. (b) (6)



HAVE YOU EVER heard of the Book  
LOVE Canal, <sup>Niagara Falls</sup> TRUE STORY by LOIS Gibbs  
Read it, these people ~~should~~ be given  
reparations for their homes.

PETER J. VISCLOSKY  
1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA

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INTERNET:  
<http://visclosky.house.gov>

June 6, 2019

(b) (6)

East Chicago, Indiana 46312

Dear Joseph:

I write to provide you the additional information you requested, following the correspondence I sent dated May 14, 2019.

Specifically, you contacted my office and requested that I contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ask three questions on your behalf: What were the interior dust sampling results from sampling taken at the West Calumet Complex in East Chicago? When did EPA do the testing? When did EPA provide the results to the East Chicago Housing Authority? Further, you contend that the residents living in the West Calumet Complex were forced to relocate given elevated dust sampling within the individual units.

To that end, I posed the three questions you provided to EPA. EPA responded by providing the following timeline for your review:

- **Early July 2016:** EPA begins putting mulch down to cover bare soil within the housing complex (Zone 1). EPA also begins preparing for excavation at properties within Zone 1.
- **CICs** circulate flyers throughout the complex with information on lead dangers and mulching operations that are ongoing. Yard signs were placed in every-other front yard in the complex and in the Playground area, along with door-hanger information sheets
- **July 25-27, 2016:** East Chicago Mayor Copeland sends a letter, enclosed, to residents recommending relocation from Zone 1 due to soil results.
- **July 29, 2016:** The first interior dust sampling begins at the USS Lead Site in Zone 1
- **August 8, 2016:** EPA received the first preliminary data from the interior dust sampling
- **Early August 2016:** EPA first began cleaning interior residences within Zone 1. All units within Zone 1 were offered cleaning. All residents were moved out during indoor cleaning and moved back in when cleaning was complete.
- **November 2016:** EPA completes interior cleaning in Zone 1. 270 units were cleaned within Zone 1, regardless of sample results. Residents were mailed letters with their interior dust sampling results for their unit.



(b) (6)

June 6, 2019

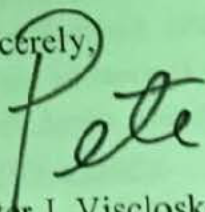
Page 2

➤ Regarding the sampling results per unit and the release of this information, EPA shared that all dust sampling results throughout the USS Lead Superfund Site may be found on the public viewer for the site. This information is available online by accessing the link Sampling Data Maps found on the USS Lead Superfund site at: [www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site](http://www.epa.gov/uss-lead-superfund-site).

As referenced in the May 14, 2019 letter, the West Calumet Complex was owned and maintained by the East Chicago Housing Authority (ECHA), which functions as the public housing authority (PHA) within East Chicago and is the recipient of federal funding for public housing through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Enclosed, please find a summary of the relocation efforts, prepared by HUD prior to the approval for demolition, and the Project Description and Alternatives Memorandum prepared that provides additional details regarding the request for disposition/demolition. On May 26, 2017, HUD issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the demolition, which triggered a public review period until June 13, 2017; however, a request for an extension for the public review period was granted and closed on July 6, 2017. A public hearing for the demolition was held on June 16, 2017. Enclosed, please also find HUD's responses, issued on September 18, 2017, to the public comments collected. Ultimately, on September 21, 2017, HUD issued a press release approving the ECHA's request for demolition and funding, awarding approximately \$4 million for demolition. Any additional questions regarding the ECHA's decision to seek approval for the demolition of the West Calumet Complex would best be answered by the ECHA.

I hope this additional information proves beneficial. If you have questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me or Elizabeth Johnson, Director of Projects and Planning, in my Merrillville District Office at 219-795-1844.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Visclosky  
Member of Congress

PJV:ej  
Enclosures

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Prepared/Completed by: Morgan Collier	9/9/19	
Reviewed by: Roopa Mulchandani	10/1/19	[x]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. (No comments were provided.) [ ]: I reviewed this WP and found it satisfactory. I also included <b>comments in a blue colored font</b> . [ ]: All comments have been resolved.
Edited by:		

**Purpose:** To collect the written input/comments from the surrounding community, at the East Chicago listening session.

***Project Guide Step #:*** E 44b

**Source(s):**

***Documents Received at Listening Session (6/26/2019):***

Source	Source Link
Source 1-Alternative B to Demo	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 1-East Chicago Alternative B to Demo.pdf
Source 2-Alt B to Demo Cost	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 2-East Chicago Alternative B to Demo Cost.pdf
Source 3-Alt C to Demo	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 3-East Chicago Alternative C to Demo.pdf
Source 4-West Calumet Complex Background	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 4-West Calumet Complex Description and Background.pdf
Source 5-E. Chicago Timeline of Events	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 5-East Chicago Timeline.pdf
Source 6-Key Failures	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 6-East Chicago Key Failures.pdf
Source 7- Letter from Visclosky	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 7-East Chicago-Letter from (b) (6) to (b) (6) Part 1.pdf
Source 8-Letter from Visclosky 2	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 8-East Chicago Letter from (b) (6) to (b) (6) Part 2.pdf
Source 9-ECHA Purpose and Description of Demo	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 9-East Chicago Purpose and Objective ECHA.pdf

<b>Source 10-Questions for Jan 20 EPA Meeting</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 10-Questions for Jan 20 EPA Meeting.pdf
<b>Source 11- Failures and Request for the OIG Part 2</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 11-Failures and Sample Requests Part 2.pdf
<b>Source 12-Demolition Scope and Decision</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 12-Demolition Scope of Decisions.pdf
<b>Source 13-Senator Randolph's Business Card</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 13-Senator Randolph Business Card.pdf
<b>Source 14-Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 1</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 14-Points for the Jan 10 EPA Meeting 1.pdf
<b>Source 15-Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 2</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 15-Points for Jan 10 Part 2.pdf
<b>Source 16-Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 3</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 16-Points for Jan 10 Part 3.pdf
<b>Source 17-Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 4</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 17-Points for Jan 10 Part 4.pdf
<b>Source 18-Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 5</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 18-Points for Jan 10 Part 5.pdf
<b>Source 19- Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 6</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 19-Points for Jan 10 Part 6.pdf
<b>Source 20-Response to EPA on DuPont</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 20-Response to EPA on DuPont Site March 2018.pdf
<b>Source 21-Senator Randolph's Back of Business Card</b>	<a href="#">Link:</a> Source 21-Senator Randolph's Business Card Part 2.pdf

**Scope:** This work paper is limited to documenting the materials the team received during the listening session and in the source documents of this workpaper.

**Conclusion(s):**

- 1.) July 25, 2016, letter from Mayor Copeland stated his support for the demolition (See Details Section 4.e, 7b.).

- 2.) 2014-Consent decree for OU1 split into 3 zones, omitted zone 2 (no information was given to this zone) (See Details Section 5d).
- 3.) Some feel EPA waited 10 months to notify people of risk between 2015-2016 (See Details Section 5e, 6b).
- 4.) Residents have technical questions about the cleanup of the site that they feel are not being answered by the EPA (See Details Section 10a-c, 20a).

#### **Details:**

- 1.) **Source 1:** Alternative B: Complete Demolition of all Structures, Hardscape, and infrastructure.
  - a) Describes the alternative proposed by the ECHA.
- 2.) **Source 2:** Alternative B: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown
- 3.) **Source 3:** Alternative C: Partial Demolition and Hardscape, with Cost Estimate.
- 4.) **Source 4:** Description/background of the West Calumet Complex
  - a) Site was listed on NPL in 2009
  - b) ROD in November 2012
  - c) EPA's website says there continues to be risks of exposure to high levels of lead in the soil, "current human exposure not under control"
  - d) 2010-ECHA decided to reposition their assets (which included West Calumet Complex) due to physical conditions.
  - e) July 25, 2016, letter from Mayor Copeland stated his support for the demolition
- 5.) **Source 5:** East Chicago Timeline of Events (Key Dates Highlighted)
  - a) 1985-EPA knew about the contamination
  - b) 1992-EPA almost listed the site onto NPL
  - c) 2011-ATSDR issues a flawed report
  - d) 2014-Consent decree for OU1 split into 3 zones, omitted zone 2 (no information was given to this zone)
  - e) 2015/2016-PRP/EPA argue about data for 10 months
  - f) Summer 2016-Signs were placed in zone 1 only
  - g) December 2016-EPA never could answer the question of whether it was safe to drink the water
  - h) August 2018-ATSDR corrected the report
- 6.) **Source 6:** Key Failures
  - a) EPA knew for decades and downplayed
  - b) Even with high levels in 2015/2016, they waited 10 months to tell/alert people
  - c) Indoor dust sampling is confusing
  - d) ATSDR's 2011 failed report said there was no risk
  - e) No ongoing blood level screening
  - f) ATSDR only talks about lead and not other metals/arsenic
  - g) Meetings conflict with written proposal for zone 1
- 7.) **Source 7:** Letter from Peter Visclosky to Local Resident



- a) **July 2016**-CIC's circulated flyers with information on lead dangers and mulching operations; yard signs placed in every other front yard in the complex and in the playground areas; door hanger information sheets
  - b) **July 25-27, 2016**-Mayor Copeland sends a letter to residents recommending they relocate out of zone 1 because of soil results.
- 8.) **Source 8:** Letter from Visclosky Part 2
- a. Dust sampling results can be found on a public viewer site
  - b. Enclosed in the letter are all the demolition plans from ECHA
- 9.) **Source 9:** ECHA Purpose and Description of Demo

Talked about the human health effects of lead.

- 10.) **Source 10:** Questions for January 20 EPA Meeting
- a. Rationale behind the toxicological normalization factors
  - b. How will they prevent re-contamination
  - c. Protocol for soil removal/replacement
- 11.) **Source 11:** Failures and Request for the OIG Part 2
- a. Failures
    - i. Not all residents were heard and had to push EPA for meeting #2
    - ii. EPA failed to engage the public for redevelopment of zone 1
  - b. Requests for OIG
    - i. Require EPA to provide regular/ongoing health screening
    - ii. Ensure all people who might move into a Superfund site know it is a Superfund site
    - iii. Give residents a seat at the decision making table
    - iv. Require EPA to do more door to door engagement
- 12.) **Source 12:** Scope/Decisions of Demo
- a. References 24 CFR 970
- 13.) **Source 13:** Senator Randolph's Business Card
- 14.) **Source 14:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 1
- a. A lot of the points were focused on technical questions on site work.
- 15.) **Source 15:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 2
- a. Topics included, concerning natural area and violation of laws
- 16.) **Source 16:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 3
- a. Discusses various contaminants and metals
- 17.) **Source 17:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 4
- a. Topic was determining more reasonable, rational, remediation for DuPont
- 18.) **Source 18:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 5
- a. Discusses various metals/toxins.
- 19.) **Source 19:** Points for the January 20 EPA Meetings Part 6
- a. Continuation on discussion of various metals/toxins
- 20.) **Source 20:** Response to EPA On DuPont
- a. EPA not submitted responses to most of the concerned citizens previous comments/questions

- b. Technical questions were asked
- 21.) **Source 21:** Back of Senator Randolph's Business Card
  - a. Discusses waiving the loan for Carrie Gosch Elementary School



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additional residents are exposed to the contamination. To date, cleanup of contaminated soil has not started.

If the ECHA does not demolish the property, the buildings will continue to deteriorate and it is unlikely ECHA will have the funds to remediate the contaminated property. As part of HUD's physical obsolescence test, HUD considers the cost of rehabilitation compared to the cost of new construction. Unless demolition occurs, ECHA will continue to spend available funds on basic maintenance and upkeep items, while attempting to mitigate harmful effects identified on the site to residents and would unlikely be able to target bigger capital repairs of systems and components that are at the end of or already past their useful life.

- Due to the presence of contaminants, ECHA would not be allowed to spend any federal or non-federal funds on rehabilitation activities until the clean-up occurs. If no rehabilitation activities could occur, the property would continue to physically deteriorate, making any future rehabilitation costlier and more complex. If rehabilitation is allowed to occur, and if the site is not demolished, the cost to substantially rehabilitate the buildings and remediate the site would cost more than building new.
- Due to the existing environmental conditions at the site and extensive media and public attention of these conditions, it is likely that the ECHA would face substantial marketing challenges and experience substantially reduced occupancy at the property as families will not want to move into the units. Reduced occupancy will, in the long-term, make it difficult to effectively manage and operate the development hindering the financial sustainability of the West Calumet development and ECHA operations. Finally, under this no action scenario, a RAP will have to be prepared by ECHA for HUD and approved by the EPA because it is a Superfund site.

Alternative A: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown: N/A

**Alternative B: Complete Demolition of All Structures, Hardscape and Infrastructure**

Under this alternative, the ECHA would demolish all improvements on the West Calumet site, including the 107 residential structures, an administration building, a community center, maintenance facility, guardhouse, and two storage sheds. The demolition project would include the removal of all improvements onsite and the removal of hazardous building materials (asbestos), razing the structures, and removing foundations. The grading would then be leveled onsite, with backfill to the appropriate standard occurring. The backfill will be utilized to ensure proper vegetation growth following demolition activities. In addition to structure removal, all improvements from the property will be removed, including roadway pavement, parking pavement, concrete and asphalt walkways, underground and overhead utilities, and lighting. If ECHA pursues demolition, current or future residents of the property will not be exposed to contamination. It will also reduce the likelihood of exposure due to trespassing. To reduce the risk of trespassing, fencing off the property and posting signage regarding the current conditions of the site will be required. Demolition requires off-site relocation of tenants.

Depending on individual circumstances, relocation may be disruptive and place tenants further away from social support networks, family, jobs, schools, and other community resources. West Calumet residents have three options for re-housing: alternative public housing units, tenant protection vouchers, and other assisted or private housing programs. At the same time, relocation, particularly relocation using tenant-based vouchers, provides households with increased mobility and choice to determine where they wish



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to live. Tenant-based vouchers provide the opportunity for families to select units located in opportunity areas, which may result in improved health and educational outcomes for the tenants. Under this scenario, a RAP will have to be prepared by ECHA for HUD and approved by the EPA because it is a Superfund site. Post demolition, the EPA would then proceed with an enforcement action that is proposed to include clean-up of the site to appropriate standards in accordance with the EPA-approved RAP.

Alternative B: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown:

Alternative B: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown:						
Complete Demolition: All Structures, Hardscape & Infrastructure Scenario						
ESTIMATE BREAKDOWN:						
Line Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Material & Labor		TOTALS
				Unit Rate	Sub-Totals	
						\$ 1,801,000.00
Building Demolition						
1	Demolition of Detached Structures	178,020	SF	\$ 7.50	\$ 1,335,150	
2	Demolition of Low Rise Structures	9,000	SF	\$ 32.75	\$ 294,750	
3	Demolition of Administration Building	7,218	SF	\$ 6.90	\$ 49,804	
4	Demolition of Maintenance Building	11,200	SF	\$ 6.90	\$ 77,280	
5	Demolition of Community Center Building	5,498	SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 43,968	
						\$ 275,130.00
Flat Work Demolition						
6	Structure Asphalt Removal	3,100	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 83,700	
7	Roadway Asphalt Removal	6,700	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 180,900	
8	Pathway Asphalt Removal	390	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 10,530	
						\$ 645,000.00
Utilities Demolition						
9	Storm Sewer Removal	9,100	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ 136,500	
10	Sanitary Sewer	9,100	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ 136,500	
11	Manhole Closure	32	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 16,000	
12	Gas Line Removal	9,100	SF	\$ 10.00	\$ 91,000	
13	Electric Removal	9,100	SF	\$ 10.00	\$ 91,000	
14	Water Removal	9,100	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ 136,500	
15	Water Tie In Disconnects	3	EA	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 37,500	
						\$ 62,290.80
Grading & Restoration						
16	General Site Grading	479,160	SF	\$ 0.03	\$ 14,375	
17	Grading Improvement for SWPPP Compliance	479,160	SF	\$ 0.10	\$ 47,916	
						\$ 2,926,655.00
Environmental						
18	Asbestos Floor Tile & Mastic Removal	364,120	SF	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,820,600	
19	Asbestos Piping Removal	1,000	LF	\$ 30.00	\$ 30,000	
20	Asbestos Transite Panel Removal	13,000	SF	\$ 2.75	\$ 35,750	
21	Dewatering Effluent Management	2,950,000	Gal	\$ 0.20	\$ 590,000	
22	Disposal of Contaminated Hardscape	210,000	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 420,000	
23	Temporary Facilities & Security Fencing	1	EA	\$ 30,305.00	\$ 30,305	
Demolition Sub-Total						\$ 5,710,075.80
Engineering						
24	SWPPP Development & Submittals	1	EA	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,500	
25	Surveying	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000	
26	HASP Development & Implementation	1	EA	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000	
27	Environmental Exposure Monitoring	1	EA	\$ 194,765.00	\$ 194,765	
28	Project Design / Procurement ( 2%)					\$ 114,201.52
29	Project Management (3.8%)					\$ 176,090.97
30	Environmental Related Concerns Contingency (3%)					\$ 171,302.27
31	General Contingency (7%)					\$ 399,705.31
PROJECT TOTAL						\$ 6,818,640.87



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Alternative C. Partial Demolition: Structures and Hardscape

Under this alternative, the ECHA would limit demolition activities to demolition of all residential structures, non-dwelling structures, parking lots, sidewalks and streets. Under this partial demolition scenario, a RAP will have to be prepared by ECHA for HUD and approved by the EPA because it is a Superfund site. Post demolition, the EPA would then proceed with an enforcement action that is proposed to include clean-up of the site to appropriate standards in accordance with the EPA-approved RAP.

Alternative C: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown

Alternative C: Approximate Cost Estimate and Breakdown						
Partial Demolition: All Structures & Hardscape						
ESTIMATE BREAKDOWN:						
Line Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Material & Labor		TOTALS
				Unit Rate	Sub-Totals	
						\$ 1,801,000.00
Building Demolition		178,020	SF	\$ 7.50	\$ 1,335,150	
1	Demolition of Detached Structures	9,000	SF	\$ 32.75	\$ 294,750	
2	Demolition of Low Rise Structures	7,218	SF	\$ 6.90	\$ 49,804	
3	Demolition of Administration Building	11,200	SF	\$ 6.90	\$ 77,280	
4	Demolition of Maintenance Building	5,498	SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 43,988	
5	Demolition of Community Center Building					\$ 275,130.00
Flat Work Demolition		3,100	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 83,700	
6	Structure Asphalt Removal	6,700	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 180,900	
7	Roadway Asphalt Removal	390	CY	\$ 27.00	\$ 10,530	
8	Pathway Asphalt Removal					\$ -
Utilities Demolition		-	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ -	
9	Storm Sewer Removal	-	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ -	
10	Sanitary Sewer	-	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ -	
11	Manhole Closure	-	SF	\$ 10.00	\$ -	
12	Gas Line Removal	-	SF	\$ 10.00	\$ -	
13	Electric Removal	-	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ -	
14	Water Removal	-	EA	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	
15	Water Tie In Disconnects					\$ 62,290.80
Grading & Restoration		479,160	SF	\$ 0.03	\$ 14,375	
16	General Site Grading	479,160	SF	\$ 0.10	\$ 47,916	
17	Grading Improvement for SWPPP Compliance					\$ 2,434,655.00
Environmental		384,120	SF	\$ 5.00	\$ 1,820,600	
18	Asbestos Floor Tile & Mastic Removal	1,000	LF	\$ 30.00	\$ 30,000	
19	Asbestos Piping Removal	13,000	SF	\$ 2.75	\$ 35,750	
20	Asbestos Tran site Panel Removal	490,000	Gal	\$ 0.20	\$ 98,000	
21	Dewatering Effluent Management	210,000	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 420,000	
22	Disposal of Contaminated Hardscape	1	EA	\$ 30,305.00	\$ 30,305	
23	Temporary Facilities & Security Fencing					
Demolition Sub-Total						\$ 4,573,075.80
						\$ 247,265.00
Engineering		1	EA	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,500	
24	SWPPP Development & Submittals	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000	
25	Surveying	1	EA	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000	
26	HASP Development & Implementation	1	EA	\$ 194,765.00	\$ 194,765	
27	Environmental Exposure Monitoring					
28				Project Design / Procurement (2%)	\$ 91,461.52	
29				Project Management (3.8%)	\$ 151,580.97	
30				Environmental Related Concerns Contingency (3%)	\$ 137,192.27	
31				General Contingency (7%)	\$ 320,115.31	
PROJECT TOTAL						\$ 5,520,590.87

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Analysis of Indiana State Department of Health capillary and venous blood lead level results  
C. Chan, M. Pell 23/09/2016



## Description and Background

The West Calumet Complex is located in the City of East Chicago, Indiana. The City is located in Lake County in northwest Indiana, within the Gary, Indiana Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The City of East Chicago's close proximity to Chicago, Illinois allowed it to develop its railroad and steel industries. The East Chicago Housing Authority (ECHA) is located in the City of East Chicago, Indiana which is one of the most industrialized cities in the U.S. and home to the Indiana Harbor Facility, the largest steelmaking complex in the Country. The West Calumet Public Housing Development ("West Calumet Complex") was built in 1973 and is comprised of 346 residential units in 107 dwelling buildings. There dwelling units consist of 2 studio units, 34 one-bedroom units, 76 two-bedroom units, 132 three-bedroom units, 60 four-bedroom units and 42 five bedroom units. In addition, there are six (6) non-dwelling buildings. Associated non-dwelling structures include a community building, administrative building, maintenance building, guard house, and two storage sheds.

The West Calumet Complex was originally built on the former Anaconda Copper Mining Company/International Smelting and Refining Company site, which is now part of a USS Lead Superfund site. The site was placed on the National Priorities List in 2009, and the initial Record of Decision (ROD) was released on November 2012. EPA covered patches of bare dirt at the West Calumet Complex to provide a temporary, protective barrier from lead-contaminated soil. EPA initially planned to remove the top two feet of soil from the site and is currently working with HUD on the joint coordinated Remedial Action Plan (RAP). EPA's website states that there continue to be risks of exposure to high levels of lead in the soil, particularly for young children. It is considered "Current Human Exposure Not Under Control." Currently, clean-up of the area where the West Calumet complex is located, has stopped due to requests by the City to ensure that the health and safety of the residents is protected and no further soil disturbance occur until the future use of the land is decided. EPA indicated that once the City and the housing agency determine the future use, the cleanup action will need to be renegotiated. At this time, it is unclear as to when the renegotiation process will begin. More information about EPA's work on and analysis of the superfund site is available on the [EPA's website](#).

Beginning in 2010, ECHA recognized the need to reposition many of its assets, including the West Calumet Complex, due to physical condition. A 2010 Physical Needs Assessment (PNA) indicated that most units had reached the end of their useful life and repairs would not be cost effective. ECHA included plans for redevelopment in the agency's 2012-2016 Strategic Plan and identified demolition for the West Calumet Complex in its 2015-2019 5-year Strategic Agency Plan submitted to HUD on October 15, 2014. Based on updated information from the EPA regarding contamination on the property, ECHA expedited their demolition application. On July 25, 2016, the ECHA submitted a Section 18 demolition application to HUD requesting approval to demolish the West Calumet Complex.

ECHA has actively engaged with the local government, West Calumet resident leaders and tenants regarding the hazardous environmental conditions at the development. On July 18, 2016, the Housing Authority Board expressed its support of the demolition application, citing the "unsafe environmental issues of the property." In a letter to ECHA, dated July 25, 2016, the Mayor of the City of East Chicago, Anthony Copeland, stated his support for the demolition action. On August 1, 2016, ECHA held two open meetings with residents. The first was a meeting with the West Calumet Resident Council, and the second



Timeline

**1971-2:** Public housing complex built on top of razed lead smelter--knowingly

**1985:** EPA knew about this contamination NO LATER THAN 1985. Residents not told.

**1992:** EPA almost listed the site on the NPL and then EPA changed its mind

**1997/8:** Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) signed on to the Indiana Department of Health's recommendation that the soil needed remediation because 30/100 kids tested had notably elevated blood lead levels. But then nothing happened.

**2009:** Site added to the NPL. Health risks downplayed. No warning signs in the community. Little community contact or information during investigation. No creation of a CAG.

**2011:** ATSDR issues a flawed Public Health Consultation Report that incorrectly states that there is no risk to the public.

**2012:** Record of Decision signed. Public meeting show lack of urgency.

**2014:** Consent Decree entered. Divides OU1 into 3 zones and omits Zone 2. Residents in Zone 2 received no information about the contamination. No communications about the risks or steps to take happened in that 2 year period.

**2015/16:** EPA undertakes sampling and discovers extremely high levels of lead and arsenic. EPA and the PRPs argue about the data for 10 months while residents learn nothing. EPA provides data to Mayor Copeland, EC in May 2016.

**Summer 2016:** Mayor Copeland tells public housing residents that the site is too contaminated for them to stay and provides Section 8 Housing Vouchers for them to move. [This relocation process was very problematic but that is outside of the purview of the EPA investigation].

**Summer 2016:** EPA finally puts signs in place warning residents not to play in the dirt in Zone 1 only—even though Zone 2 and 3 were also contaminated.

**September 2016:** EPA puts cleanup of Zone 1 on hold pending relocation of residents and demolition of housing complex.

**December 2016:** EPA tests the drinking water and determines that it has elevated levels of lead—likely due to lead service lines and inadequate corrosion control treatment of the water. After that and after the City took measures to address it, EPA never could answer the question of whether it was safe to drink the water.

**2017-2019:** Investigation and remediation information provided to residents continues to be confusing and inaccurate. Lead dust sampling is flawed and communications about sampling are confusing.

**August 2018:** ATSDR issues corrected blood lead data report that says that children living on the Superfund site were 2-3x as likely to have elevated blood levels as the rest of East Chicago and 5x as likely as children in the rest of the nation.

**2018-2019:** EPA continues to downplay the ongoing risks from groundwater contamination—from DuPont facility and USS Lead.



**November 2018-March 2019:** EPA releases proposed, revised remediation plan for Zone 1 and holds public meetings. EPA presented inconsistent information at these meetings and its statements lacking transparency about the risks.

Key failures:

**1. EPA continually failed to communicate about the contamination:**

- a. EPA knew about the contamination for decades before telling residents or taking any action and then downplayed it throughout the process.
- b. Even after EPA samples showed extremely high levels of lead and arsenic in the soil in 2015/2016, EPA waited more than 10 months to tell residents the results OR provide any kind of alert.
- c. Although EPA ultimately agreed to do indoor dust sampling, its sampling protocol is lacking and its communication of the results is confusing.

**2. EPA has inappropriately downplayed health risks and has not facilitated adequate health testing.**

- a. ATSDR issued a grossly flawed Public Health Assessment report in 2011 that actually said there was NO risk from contact with the air, soil, or water..
- b. Only after it was exposed that the report used inappropriate data did ATSDR redo the blood lead data portion of the report and make it site specific. Even though ATSDR's 2018 report showed that kids on the Superfund site were 2-3x as likely to have elevated blood lead levels, neither ATSDR nor EPA changed anything it was doing--either in terms of communication or health screening.
- c. There is no regular or ongoing blood lead level screening in the community.
- d. ATSDR has almost exclusively communicated about lead and ignored the arsenic issue. No heavy metals testing.

**3. EPA's meetings lack transparency and accessibility**

- a. Zone 1 proposed remediation plan's meetings:
  - i. The meetings about the pending final remediation plan for Zone 1 involved statements that directly conflicted with the written proposals and past statements



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was a meeting with the ECHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB). On August 9, 2016, ECHA held a public meeting with all West Calumet residents. At each of these three open meetings, discussions included the purpose of the proposed demolition application and plans for relocating tenants.

### Purpose and Need Objectives

The ECHA is proposing demolition based on 24 CFR 970.15(b). Under 24 CFR 970.15(b)(1)(i) HUD will approve demolition of all or a portion of a public housing project that has been determined to be obsolete as to "physical condition, location or other factors" making the project obsolete as to physical condition, location or other factors, making it unsuitable for housing purposes, and no reasonable program of modifications is cost-effective to return the public housing project or portion of the project to useful life. Obsolescence "as to location" is defined under 970.15(b)(ii) as the physical deterioration of the neighborhood; change in residential to industrial or commercial development or environmental conditions as determined by HUD environmental review with 24 CFR Part 50 which jeopardize the suitability of the site or a portion of the site and its housing structures for residential use. Finally, under 24 CFR 970 (b)(1)(iii), other major problems indicative of obsolescence includes other "factors that have seriously affected the marketability, usefulness, or management of the property".

Specifically, ECHA has identified a major problem related to location and known environmental conditions which jeopardize the suitability of the site for residential use as the imminent threats to health and safety to the residents of the West Calumet development are based on the EPA's most recent findings related to the extreme elevated levels of lead and arsenic on the site. HUD does not have knowledge of any facts that are inconsistent with the certification.

- ECHA has concluded that a demolition is appropriate since the buildings cannot be rehabilitated in a cost-effective manner. The 2015 PNA states that most of the mechanical and electrical systems are original. Despite some renovations and regular maintenance, the buildings require a significant investment. The 2015 short-term replacement costs (i.e., less than five years) totaled \$2.6 million, the total renovation costs for all units was \$7.9 million, and the total physical needs assessment was \$7.6 million. As noted earlier, ECHA Five Year Strategic Annual Plan indicated that at some point the Housing Authority had intended to redevelop this site, however when the extent of the site contamination became known, ECHA expedited plans to address the remediation and possible redevelopment of West Calumet. HUD gives PHAs deference to determine, in consultation with the community and other stakeholders, locally-driven strategies to ensure housing is decent, safe and sanitary. Given the age and condition of the property, and known extreme environmental hazards on the property, demolition was deemed a necessary priority for the ECHA.

In addition, lead and and arsenic were identified throughout the site at various depths and concentrations. Lead is a hazardous substance, as defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA. The effects of lead are the same whether it enters the body through breathing or swallowing. Lead can affect almost every organ and system in the body. The main target for lead toxicity is the nervous system, both in adults and children. Long-term exposure of adults can result in decreased performance in some tests that measure functions of the nervous system. It may also cause weakness in fingers, wrists, or ankles. Lead exposure also causes increases in blood pressure, particularly in middle-aged and older people, and can cause anemia. Exposure to high lead levels can severely damage the brain and kidneys in adults or children and ultimately cause death. In pregnant women, high levels of exposure to lead may cause miscarriage. Due to these concerns, ECHA requested early relocation using tenant protection vouchers. Given the site conditions and threats

Health  
(w)  
Air  
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Questions for the Jan 20 EPA Meeting in East Chicago

1. Considering the verified existence of the Calumet Aquifer, and its obvious impact on your "clean-up" in zones 2 and 3; why do you not acknowledge this and inform the residents that may expect only a temporary remission in pollution exposure of perhaps 1-5 years.
2. Why are ignoring the medical fact that a significant fraction of resident population (estimated at 16.5 %, assuming a normal distribution and considering only the negative leg of the remainder after 2 sigma have been subtracted) will be susceptible to serious effects of the pollution, including cancer, diabetes, and other debilitating diseases? If we assume a population of ~27,000 this calculates to 4,455 persons who would still be susceptible to potentially serious or deadly effects at the allowable limit of pollution. What is your justification for this and where may we find your data?
3. In keeping with the above hypersensitivity proposal, please explain the rationale behind your toxicological normalization factors which are supposed to compensate for synergistic effects of multiple pollutants. My fear is that these factors are based on measures of centrality that do not take into account the probable skewing effects on the results due to the log normal influence of higher pollutant concentrations where the influence of each pollutant requires a different factor based on individual susceptibilities not assessable a priori. This would only be obvious in an "n" dimensional analysis of which I have seen no evidence in any of your reports.
4. It is well known and adequately documented that all hazardous waste containment facilities leak after a period of time usually from 3-5 years. Yet not even such a temporary properly prepared facility has been erected, and approved, by any authority, anywhere at the USS Lead site. How will you prevent recontamination of private properties adjacent to the uncontained hazardous waste buried at the site considering the known long term effect of the Calumet Aquifer and precipitation? What written guarantees will you give the citizens of East Chicago?
5. I question your protocol for determining the need for soil removal and replacement on individual properties. Averaging the results of the samples, and using that average to determine the critical level would only be valid if the contamination is purely airborne from adjacent soil sources. This is clearly not the case for many households in East Chicago. To list but a few potential additional sources: sump pumps in the basement, tracking contaminants onto the property by pets, visitors and wild things, flooding of the property from contaminated water sources, and many more.

Prepared by:

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- ii. Not all residents had their voices heard at the first meeting and we had to push hard to get EPA to follow through on promise for second meeting
  - iii. EPA failed to engage the public in discussions about planned redevelopment of Zone 1, even though the Superfund Task Force Report set out that recommendation.
- b. Regular update meetings were poorly facilitated and not presented at a technical level not appropriate for the lay people of this EC community.

Sample requests for OIG:

1. **Require EPA to provide regular and ongoing health screening** in the community for impacted residents who currently live or lived at the site. There should be no age limit on testing or services because some people's children moved into the site when they were very young and still have impacts.
2. **Ensure that people who might move into the Superfund site know that it is a Superfund site (disclosure).**
3. **Give residents a seat at the decision-making table** to improve decisions and increase transparency.
4. **Require EPA to do more door-to-door engagement with residents** to explain what is happening to senior citizens or people with less mobility.



IN 029 - West Calumet Demolition  
Project Description and Alternatives Memorandum

to resident health and safety, HUD approved tenant protection vouchers on or around July 25, 2016. HUD approved a Relocation Plan on January 10, 2017. The relocation plan includes identification of eligible families, housing options, eligible relocation benefits, and relocation services, among other information. As of March 8, 2017, 80% of the households (approximately 265) have either relocated or have identified a unit and are in the process of relocation.

### Scope of decisions ripe for decision-making

This environmental review is limited to the demolition action. There is currently no known or proposed future use of the property. Known future uses are determined using the factors stated at 24 CFR 970.13(b). The four factors include:

- (1) Private, Federal, State, or local funding for the site reuse has been committed;
- (2) A grant application involving the site has been filed with the Federal government or a state or local unit of government;
- (3) The Federal government or a state or unit of local government has made a commitment to take an action, including a physical action, that will facilitate a particular reuse of the site; and
- (4) Architectural, engineering, or design plans for the reuse exist that go beyond preliminary stages.

At this time, the future use of the site is unknown, and ECHA confirmed that none of the four factors listed above had been triggered in their Certification Letter to HUD dated January 5, 2017. HUD independently verified this information based on local knowledge, media reports, and conversations with stakeholders. Among other evidence, HUD notes that the City of East Chicago issued an RFP to conduct a feasibility study to determine possible alternatives to future use.

- 24 CFR 970 provides the criteria for approval of the demolition of public housing property. A completed environmental review is one of the factors HUD considers when determining whether the demolition application should be approved to ensure that the PHA and HUD have considered the potential effects to the environment of the demolition action. The purpose of this environmental review is to consider these effects, determine if there are any circumstances requiring compliance with the federal environmental laws and authorities, evaluate reasonable alternatives, prescribe mitigating measures, and provide environmental certification for the proposed project, prior to taking any choice limiting actions. HUD's completion of the environmental review, including making a FONSI (or FOSI) determination, as appropriate, is not a decision to approve the demolition application, nor is the purpose of this environmental review to determine the ultimate outcome of the application.

### Consideration of Alternatives

#### Alternative A: No Action Scenario

If the ECHA does not demolish the property, in the short-term, the residents living at West Calumet will continue to be exposed to contamination until a new contamination clean-up plan is renegotiated. As stated above, this is unlikely to occur prior to 2019. In particular, special populations, such as children and pregnant women, may be at high risk for lead poisoning, leading to life-long challenges. The 2014 consent decree states that the property will be dug up and up to two feet of contaminated soil will be removed and replaced with clean soil. However, it is unclear what the renegotiated consent decree will require. In the interim, the housing agency has acknowledged a need to take action to ensure no



## Senator Randolph

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Points for Jan 10 EPA Meeting on Status of DuPont Superfund Site in East Chicago

By inspecting the Data available from the report entitled Human Health Risk Assessment (published 2012) HHRA important facts can be inferred for the whole site.

1. By focusing on the condition of the various waters analyzed on site, it is clear that all the waters are contaminated with pollutants not found as natural deposits in any of the geological strata found at any depth in East Chicago.

2. Most of these pollutants were brought to this site as part of the manufacturing operations carried out by the businesses sited at what is now called the DuPont Site, dating back to the mid to late 1800's and continuing, in reduced form, till today (Jan. 2018)

3. The water analyses show that a large fraction of the soluble pollutants are toxic to all life other than some microorganisms, many are cumulative, biomagnify as they move up the trophic scale, and since they are basic elements, can not be treated in any way to make them nontoxic.

4. The devilish illusion that one can detoxify such materials by changing them in some way to make them insoluble serves only to confuse and confound the citizens of East Chicago.

N.B. While forming high Ksp derivatives, macromolecular clathrates, soluble chelates, and other immobilization techniques does reduce the free ions in water solution over a short time frame (time involved depends on the derivative of the pollutant) the thermodynamically driven diffusion, from whatever source, will continue to leak poisons into the environment until an equilibrium is reached. For those pollutants which bioaccumulate and/or biomagnify, this simply means that toxic effects in the biota (including most importantly people) will simply be delayed not eliminated.

5. Waters which are so contaminated include: Redevelopment Area Surface Water (Table A-5)

Open Area Surface Water (Table A-9), Buffer Area Surface Water (Table A-13), Redevelopment Area Groundwater (Table A-14)<sup>1</sup>, Redevelopment Area Groundwater (Table A-14)<sup>2</sup>, Riley Park Area Groundwater (Table A-15)<sup>1&2</sup> These are all the water analysis tables in the HHRA report.

Copies of these Tables are appended to this commentary. Sic vide

6. Since **ALL** the waters show contamination to varying degrees, it is clear that the sources are not just the migration of groundwater from a common place to the extent of the site, but **must be dissolving these materials in each section of site**. Hence a surface or subterranean source exists every where on the DuPont Site. Q.E.D. These multiple sources both surfacial and buried must be removed before any other use can be made of this land. The hocus pocus currently being attempted by several authorities to settle this site is, dishonest, misleading, dangerous to health and property, and official misconduct.

7. The majority of the detectable toxics are inorganic, a few are organic which I will comment on.

a. Antimony is such a horrendous poison that virtually any level poses a threat to humans and other living things. I am addressing professionals, I need not elaborate.

b. the EPA and others have focused on arsenic. Most people realize the danger that that represents, however, you have failed to emphasize the cumulative aspect of this poison. In the past it was a poison of choice because the administration of very low levels eventually can lead to death, and the symptoms mimic other organic diseases. You are focusing on the legal limits, ignoring that individual sensitivities can throw your legal limits into a chamberpot. Furthermore, the synergistic effects of multiple pollutants weakens a living organism and can significantly lower the tolerance level below a legal limit. This is true for many other pollutants in this witches brew, not only arsenic.

c. Cadmium, shows up in all of the water samples. Its effect on heart health is well documented in much medical literature and yet you choose to ignore its presence and again ignore the fraction of the East Chicago population which might be highly sensitive to this toxin. Who are these people? How many are there out of 27,000?, ten? a hundred? a thousand? You don't know and your attitude indicates



5. No attempt was made by the investigators to determine the species or even the genera of the sulfate reducing organisms which they haphazardly used in their development. Without this knowledge, factors such as climate, temperature, pH variability, conductivity, etc., would effect the expected outcome in unknown and unpredictable ways. Since all this work is empirical, changes cannot be compensated for with known results. The site is not a static entity there are inorganic, organic and biological changes occurring constantly how these will affect the long term outcome are unknown. The investigators did monitor the system for a year but they expect it to remain stable indefinitely. Indefinitely is a very long time. One possible source of failure could be photolithotrophic organisms which use sulfide materials as electron donors and convert them back to sulfates. This entire remedy is a crap shoot and we all know where the crap will fall. This is being touted as a permanent solution, I see a hundred reasons why it can fail.

#### Concerning the Natural Area

You, DuPont, and The Nature Conservancy claim that the Natural Area, on the DuPont site, is a pristine unaffected ecological remnant of typical Dune and Swale. In my opinion this is not correct. Parsons own valuation of the Natural(2013) area shows concentrations of Arsenic, Lead, and Zinc at unnaturally high levels relative to the published Chicago control levels (within your distributed documents). There are no known natural sources in this areas geology for Lead and Arsenic and Zinc is at unnatural levels. Parson's Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment makes a common assessment error. It massively underestimates the importance of macroinvertebrate life. This group represents close to 90% (estimated by biomass) of all animal life anywhere on dry land (which includes fresh water aquatics). Until this error is corrected all evaluations are skewed and inaccurate. I believe that The Nature Conservancy's evaluation was made primarily on the bases of a rich phytic community. Which is only an indication of potential zoological richness, not a guarantee. The "unimproved areas" of the property were used as a convenient dumping site for almost 100 years by all the businesses located on the site. You will have to show a zoological history to convince me that the Natural Area has not been impacted and you can not do that. I saw no bioindex (Hilsenhoff or other) in any of the documents. Did I miss it, is it there? That pollutants from other areas of the site are infiltrating the Natural Area (NA hence forth) is clearly shown by the data from the 2012 Humane Health Risk Assessment where the waters in the Buffer zone are significantly contaminated again despite the fact that the Buffer zone showed a significant drop directly after the RFI. Clearly one of the drivers of this is the Calumet Aquifer ebb and flow, which will distribute the pollutants laterally and bring any buried materials up from below.

The use of plants for bioremediation is a well documented technique. A problem exists in that different plant bioaccumulate these toxins at different rates and accumulate them in different parts of the plant. The next question is what herbivores will partake of these plants. Meaning these are the primary agents of toxin distribution to the ecotope as frass and food. Since most herbivores are insects in the NA, there is your answer and a justification for doing a complete macroinvertebrate survey. This also requires a thorough investigation of what plants act as accumulators. To the best of my knowledge neither of these factors have been quantified. In my opinion therefore, the real quality of the NA is at best questionable, at worst awful.

#### Violation of the Laws

I will leave matters of the gross violation of a plethora of laws, rulings and legal stipulations which have been repeatedly and intentionally ignored over long periods of time by the PRP's (Principle Responsible Parties) to those of our teams who are more skilled in the art; but the impact of these violations has negatively impacted the complexity, distribution and all the costs associated with this site. I think that I am safe in assuming that this was done in part, in an effort to reduce overall costs. Nothing could be further from a rational approach. Anyone who knows of the work of W. Edwards Deming knows that this will yield exactly the opposite of what is sought. Focus on costs and your costs will go up and your quality will go down; Focus on quality, and your costs will go down and your



you don't care.

d. Cobalt is a known micronutrient, however the amount necessary for the health of all animals (cobalamin is synthesized by gut bacteria) is very, very small. Chronic exposure to higher levels can lead to a variety of diseases.  $N \times 10^{-3}$  is not a very low level for Cobalt.

e. Chromium is found in relatively low levels in most of the waters, however no information is given as to its valence. Is it III or VI it makes a difference

f. Copper, this element seems to be well below toxic limits for all analysis with respect to human toxicity (HHRA) but its effect on invertebrates and algae at these levels needs to be evaluated.

g. Fluoride, free Fluoride ions are toxic to most life forms at varying levels. The use in drinking water is presently in question. The spot values at 4.9-2.4 mg/L are high and while lower elsewhere are seriously questionable since free Fluoride is intensely reactive with metals with which it forms insoluble precipitates, or soluble complexes. Why is it in these waters? In what form?

h. Iron III forms very insoluble compounds with most counter ions. These are then in equilibrium with the free iron in water. All the water samples contain iron at about 1-2 mg/L (1-2 ppm) this is not a dangerous level but the synergistic effects when combined with other pollutants has not been studied in these areas and positive data is needed to allow a rational decision.

i. Lead, since lead is a well known and documented cumulative neurotoxin, to talk of allowable levels, where the health of children is involved is criminal. Individual susceptibilities can not be predicted accurately, therefore, the precautionary principle dictates that a zero level limit must be attempted. The mealy-mouthed arguments against this are driven not by intelligence but by an unwillingness to bear the costs of such a program. In other words, greed and elitism.

j. Manganese toxicity is well known, the multiple complex symptoms, some of which resemble Parkinsonism, come under the title of manganism. IOM upper limit is 11 mg/day. Individual sensitivities are not considered by this nor are possible synergistic effects. Data for non mammal or invertebrate animals is not considered and therefore ecological considerations are ignored (not unreasonable for an HHRA) but as the **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY** you must consider these factors since we humans are massively dependent on the natural world around us even though some idiots are in denial.

k. Nickel is a suspected (strongly) carcinogen and well documented allergen. It potentiates an hypoxic response. OSHA considers an air density of 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> immediately hazardous to life and health. All of the water samples contain some low levels of nickel, **WHY? THERE ARE NO KNOWN NATURAL DEPOSITS OF NICKEL WITHIN 100 MILES OF EAST CHICAGO!**

l. the hysteria over Nitrites in food sources has been done to death. Both Nitrate and Nitrite levels are low in the waters but the niggling problem of source remains. In natural areas pulses of nitrite can be expected but in highly impacted polluted areas, such as this DuPont site, only a non natural source remains, **What Is It?**

m. Selenium is a rare element on earth. For it to be found on site at DuPont implies a non natural source. Selenium is a micronutrient but by the same token systemic toxic effects can occur at ~ 800 ug/day and the dietary limit is set at 400 ug/day. Levels here are again below these limits but **Why is this stuff here? And why is it found in all the water samples?**

n. Titanium is not known to be toxic to humans at any level however it can bioaccumulate in the presence of silica and appears to be a micronutrient for many plants. As usual, is this another gorilla in the closet? Our massively stupid current leadership will not countenance the expenditure of money for research which does not yield an immediate profit. Titanium only was found in very few samples from the DuPont site but it is not a natural constituent of the geology of the region.

o. Vanadium is now found in this region primarily because of the processing of tar sands by B P where it concentrates in PETCOKE. However, Vanadium salts were used as catalysts by DuPont and it occurs in all the water samples tested. There are no natural vanadium sources near East Chicago. All vanadium compounds are considered toxic.



quality will go up. Attention to costs is a good thing; focusing on costs is not. Knowing where the dividing line between the two exists is the art of good business.

#### A More Reasonable, Rational, Remediation for DuPont

All of the efforts expended to date on the DuPont and adjacent inhabited sites have focused on containment not removal and detoxification. Some of the effort has been to dig up and reburial on site, or dismantle and reburial. Always leaving the pollutants easy transport to inhabited areas. Off-site, there has been a little scraping, digging and cleaning but the material is still reburied somewhere where it can again surface and recontaminate something or someone. Large amounts of money have been wasted with the end results no net gain as the toxic plume slowly spreads ever further into the community. The price tag on all this is outrageous, especially since there is no permanent solution and more money will be needed for a permanent solution.

A partial list of buried toxins consists of :

1. Antimony in various forms with an estimated mass of 80 short tons. Is on the list of strategic materials which this country is running out of and will soon have to import a majority. At \$ 8688.00/ton this represents \$695040.00
2. Arsenic in various forms with an estimated mass of 126 short tons. This material is an important dopant in the electronics semiconductor industry. At approximately \$0.92/lb this represents \$231,840
3. Cadmium-one of lowest priced contaminants at \$1717.00/short ton
4. Zinc-of which there is a lot on site price is \$3080.00/short ton
5. Lead- no good estimates for quantity on site but there is a lot, and the price is \$2454.00/short ton ore

chromium, nickel, copper, selenium, and cobalt are probably there at concentrations too low to consider separately but may be recoverable as an alloy and then fractionally crystallized or electrolytically separated.

Organics could be stripped out by steam distillation separated by fractional distillation and then either destroyed at high temperature or purified and sold as pure high added value compounds.

An easy low cost fuel for these processes is easily available by using Petcoke. The major contaminant in it is Vanadium. A recoverable value added article of commerce and the main reason it is not being used in the US as fuel.

Additional technologies could be gleaned from a compendium called Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation (SITE) from the University of Michigan Library. An additional book called SITE Program Progress and Accomplishments, is also available from the U of Mich. Library.

The key to all this is to think in terms of a break-even operation, at least at first until the unavoidable technical problems are solved. At break-even, the PRP's would loose nothing, the shareholders would not complain, since they would loose no interests or dividends.

Planning is critical, especially in sizing a small slow operation. Ultimately the developed technology could be marketed globally with a potential for real profit. Meanwhile a headache liability would be disposed of, and the city of East Chicago will benefit from marketable light industrial sites.

**By removing the contaminants you would unavoidably solve the Aquifer contamination problem making a portion of groundwater available as gray water for many uses. The waste water could be handled by existing water treatment facilities since they are sized for a larger industrial base that has shrunk. This last point, of increasing the fresh water availability for the region has global implication if you consider the ever increasing pressure for clean fresh water. By reducing the dependence on Lake Michigan you increase the value of the lake and all who are dependent on the lake.**

Presented by

(b) (6)



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p. Zinc. The micronutrient status of zinc is well known and understood. While humans seem quite tolerant of zinc levels less than 100 ppm, many plants, and invertebrates are sensitive to micromolar quantities and one study showed the serious vulnerability of the water flea *Daphnia magna* to low levels of zinc ( 93% death rate). The levels of zinc in the above waters are not dangerous to humans, the effect on the environment especially the sections called the natural area could be severe.

q. 1,1 Dichloroethane does not occur naturally in the environment. ASTDR has a toxics advisory for this material since it is a nervous system toxin in humans .

r. 1,2 Dichloroethane also occurs in DuPont soils it is very toxic and a suspected carcinogen. It azeotropes with water and other solvents and is very persistent in anoxic aquifers. Where is it from? Why is it here?

s. Bis(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate- this is a plasticiser similar to those used in plastic water bottles . The acute animal toxicity is very low but it is an endocrine disruptor, cardiotoxic, obesogenic, and developmental retarder (testis). Since it is very insoluble in water, why is it showing up in the Riley Park waters?

Earlier reports, some generated by DuPont itself in 1967 and 1998, just to list two of the many available, showed shockingly high levels of pollution and more diverse lists of pollutants. How is it that the levels in the HHRA are between 10 and 100 times lower than in reports generated in 1998 ? These reports are available to us and most certainly had to be available to EPA and IDEM for at least 19 years !

Prepared by: (b) (6)



Response to EPA on the DuPont Site March 6, 2018

The EPA has not submitted any responses to most of my previous comments and questions. I did not submit these to waste paper or time. I expected a professional response to my statements and a critique where necessary, either in writing or by phone. Obviously, I was mistaken. The current administration, at least at Region 5, is not interested in substantive analysis of their actions and proposals, and has taken an egregious, elitist, and arrogant position implying that they are beyond citizen, professional criticism and no reasonable justification is necessary. I object to such a position and herein do so publicly. If you are planning to use the excuse that for various departmental reasons you have not been able to assign the proper personnel to such a response, I reject such an excuse, because you have had since September of last year to formulate such responses.

Concerning the Proposed Solution to the Toxics at the DuPont Site

You have not shown an understanding of the bioimplications of your proposal. There are at least 220 species of Sulfate reducing organisms (all obligate anaerobes) some of which exist at the DuPont site and could be involved in your proposal. Each organism has some unique requirements to operate optimally. Until you know which ones are involved you are fishing in the dark, with a bare hook and a fishing line made of spaghetti. You will not know what your result mean even if they appear good. Your proposed system, if it works at all depends on the formation of heavy metal and metalloid sulfides and the sequestration of these in a matrix composed of mainly iron III and aluminum III gelatinous hydroxides hydrates. You further assume that these sulfides will be stable and nonreactive. The most probable sulfides will be those of Lead, Antimony, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium and iron.

By researching the reports of Parsons, CH2MHill, and additional documents it becomes clear that the primary goal of this work is simply the reduction in the water born concentration of Arsenic. No other toxic, in this witches brew of toxics at DuPont, is considered even though the chosen mechanism will also reduce the toxic concentration of Cadmium, Zinc, and Lead. This mechanism also involves the coprecipitation of Arsenic on a matrix of sulfides, where the primary matrix consists of iron II sulfide. The known complication of the re-solution of Arsenic sulfides by solutions containing excess sulfide ions, explains some of the confusing language of the reports. Furthermore, you have never indicated in any of your presentations that you have both Arsenic III (estimated approx. 66%) and Arsenic V (estimated approx. 33%) at DuPont. These form different sulfides with very different properties, and yet your protocol seeks to sequester both at the same time. The proposed protocol should have indicated this clearly. None of the documents, to my knowledge indicate the spontaneous conversion of  $As_2S_3$  to Arsenic trioxide in the presence of air, which is again soluble and toxic. This factor seriously damages the acceptability and long term reliability of proposed remedy. Furthermore an e-mail was sent to me by Jennifer Dodd which indicated that no sparging with air would be done during the remediation. This is very perplexing to me since the CH2MHill/Parsons protocol is empirical, changing any part of it could materially affect the outcome. Therefore I need to see a copy of the complete protocol to be used.

A further critique is called for about your proposed method. The EPA seems to have accept the work done by VH2MHill and Parsons without a proper evaluation of the protocol.

1. The PRB is based on a synthetic "O" valence iron, nanotechnology, barrier which this steel mill slag is most definitely not. Where is the data tha proves the two are equivalent? They are not
2. No controls were run off site under controlled conditions where the Arsenic levels, microorganisms, pH and other factors could be varied and tested using multifactorial analysis to determine optima.
3. no attempt seems to have been made to identify the end point sulfides, their location in the system, their concentration, crystal size and uniformity, or estimates of the  $K_{sp}$ 's. These are all critical for the long term stability of the arsenic insolubility which impacts the safety of your system vis a vis the people of the region.
4. No measure of threshold interferences in crystal formation which would impact the long term stability of your solution.



- Waive the loan for Carrie Gosch Elementary School

Several years ago, Carrie Gosch Elementary School was forced to relocate after harmful amounts of lead were found in and around the building. The necessary loan taken out to relocate pushed the school into crippling debt, but this session I drafted legislation to waive the loan. Unfortunately, my legislation never received a committee hearing and efforts to amend this language into the budget were voted down by the Republican supermajority.

- Increase pay for fire protection trustees

My proposal, Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 156, was approved by the legislature and signed into law by the governor. This legislation will increase the maximum amount that a fire protection board trustee can receive per work day from \$20 to \$100. This increase was necessary to attract more board members responsible for managing fire services, as